HOW TO DRAW HAIRSTYLES FOR MANGA

Learn to Draw Hair for Expressive Manga and Anime Characters

STUDIO HARD DELUXE

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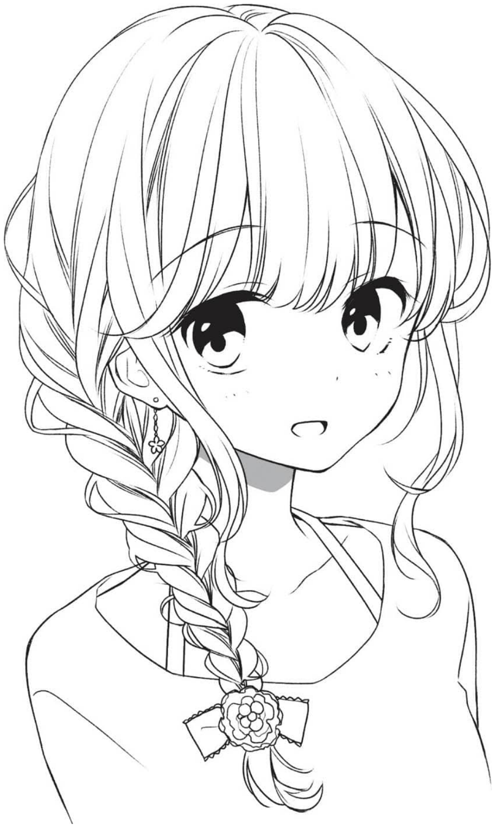
INTRODUCTION



After facial expressions, hair is the most important element when drawing a great manga character. How you draw your character's hair can take them from a simple sketch to a more realistic form with personality and dimension, ready for the anime screen. In *How to Draw Hairstyles for Manga*, we focus on illustrating hairstyles that express movement and emotion to take your work to the next level.

To get started, we first look at the basics of human hair, how it grows from the scalp, how it parts, and how it moves. Follow along, step-by-step, as you discover how to add bangs, length, curls, and more. Plus, you'll learn how to identify a variety of different hairstyles, from traditional styles for men and women to unique looks that surprise. Once you have a grasp on hair characteristics, you'll learn to enhance your drawings further by adding movement and shadows.

Looking for specific hairstyle ideas? We've got you covered. *How to Draw Hairstyles for Manga* shares hundreds of looks for any character! Get inspired with examples of short, medium, and long styles, styles for epic battle scenes, underwater scenes, windy scenes, and more. Your character will never have another bad hair day.

Grab your drawing supplies and let’s go!

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CHAPTER

01

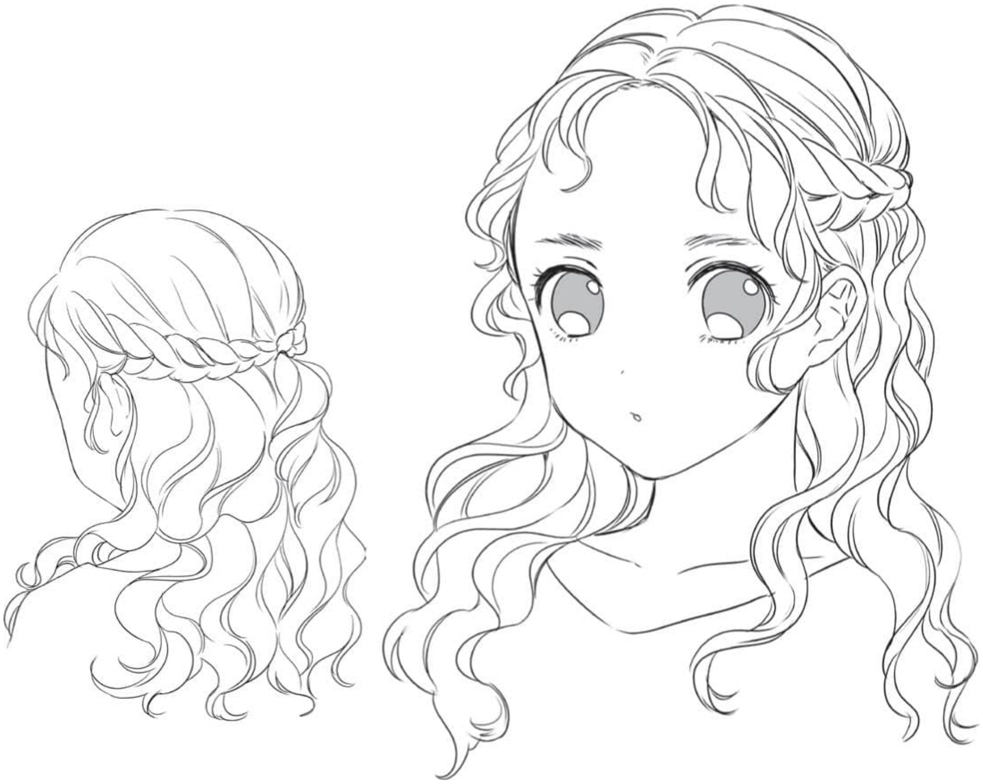
Understanding Manga Hair

How Hair Influences Characters & Scenes

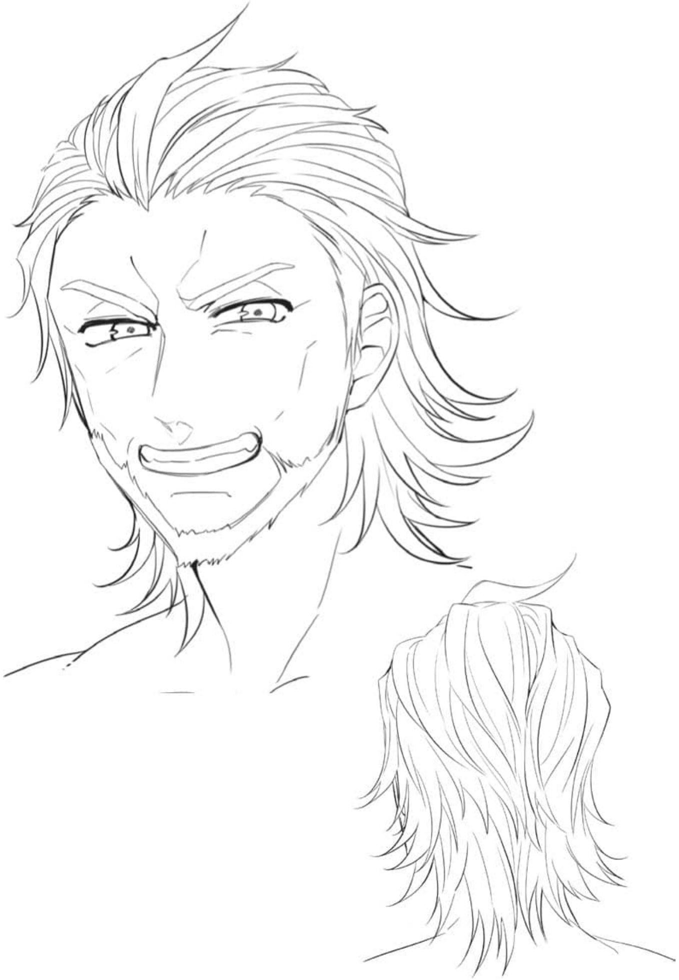
Hair is an important part of a character's individuality and personality. In this section, we'll explore the relationship between hair and characters.

Expressing Personality

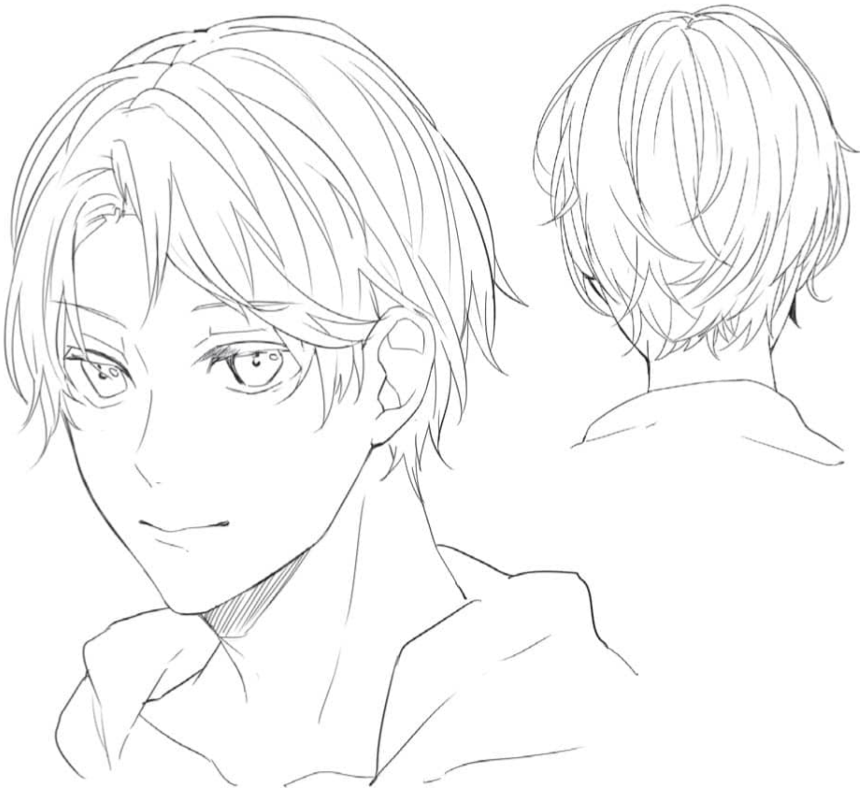
A character's hairstyle can suggest their personality just as much as their clothing. Paired with a strong facial expression, you can assume a lot about the character's intent in a scene. Looking at the characters here, what do you think their hair says about them?



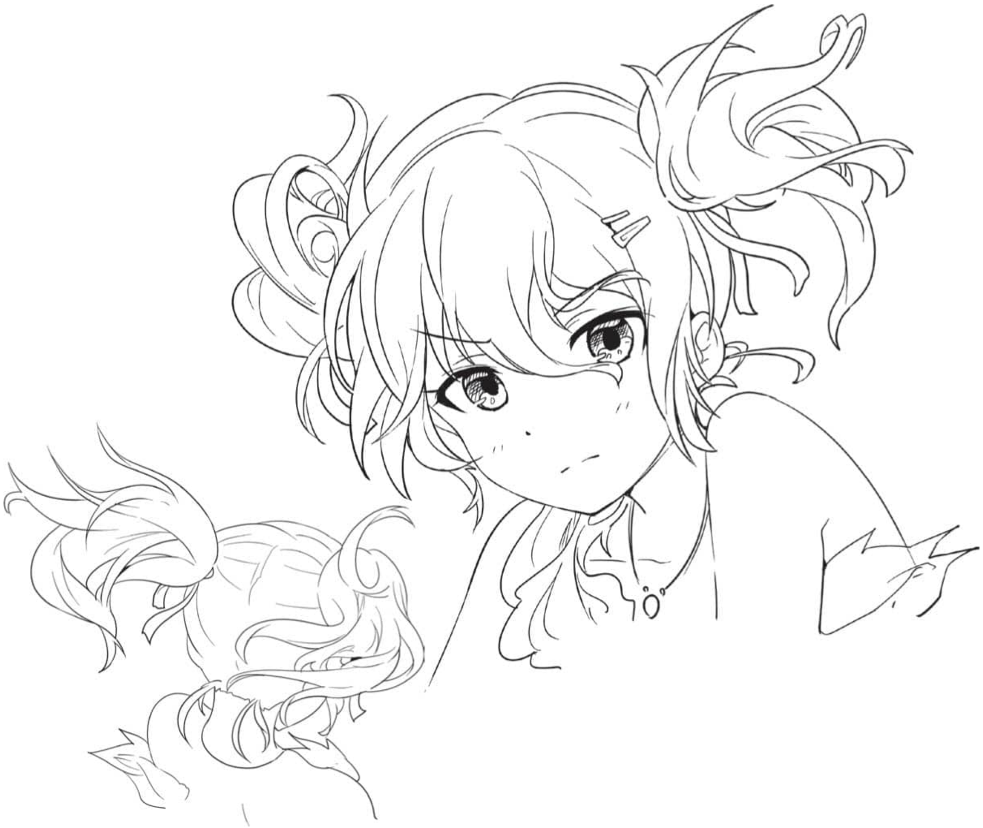
Long wavy hair with braids lifted up halfway



Bouncy, slicked back style



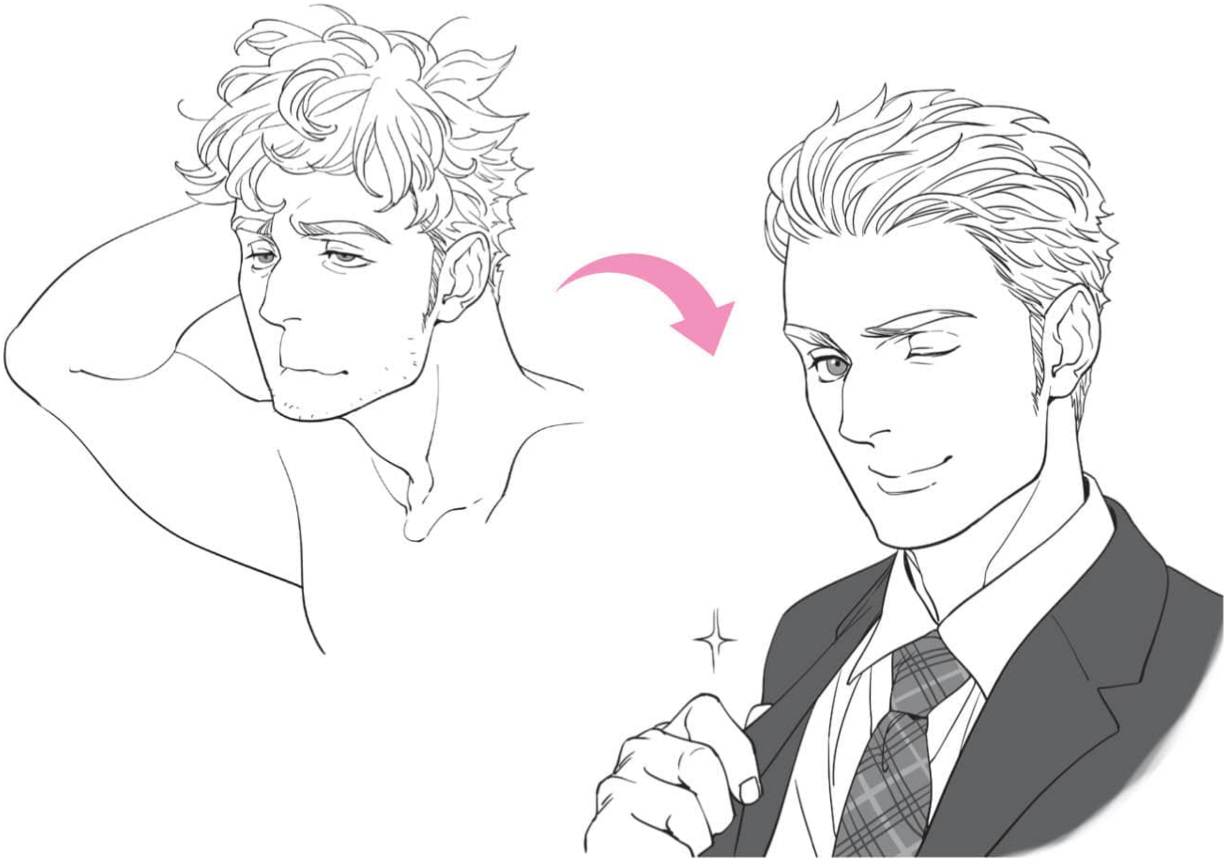
Short hair with bangs



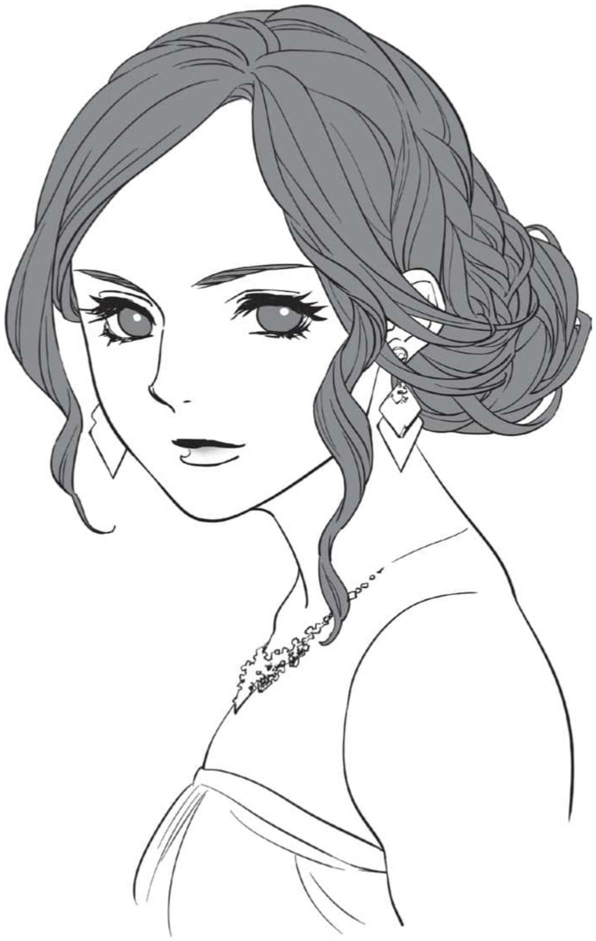
Twin ponytails with flair

Expressing Different Occasions

People change their hairstyles to suit different occasions. You can even express the time of day through a hairstyle. Hair is messy when first waking up, but when ready for a day at the office, it is combed and styled. A formal updo suggests a special evening event.



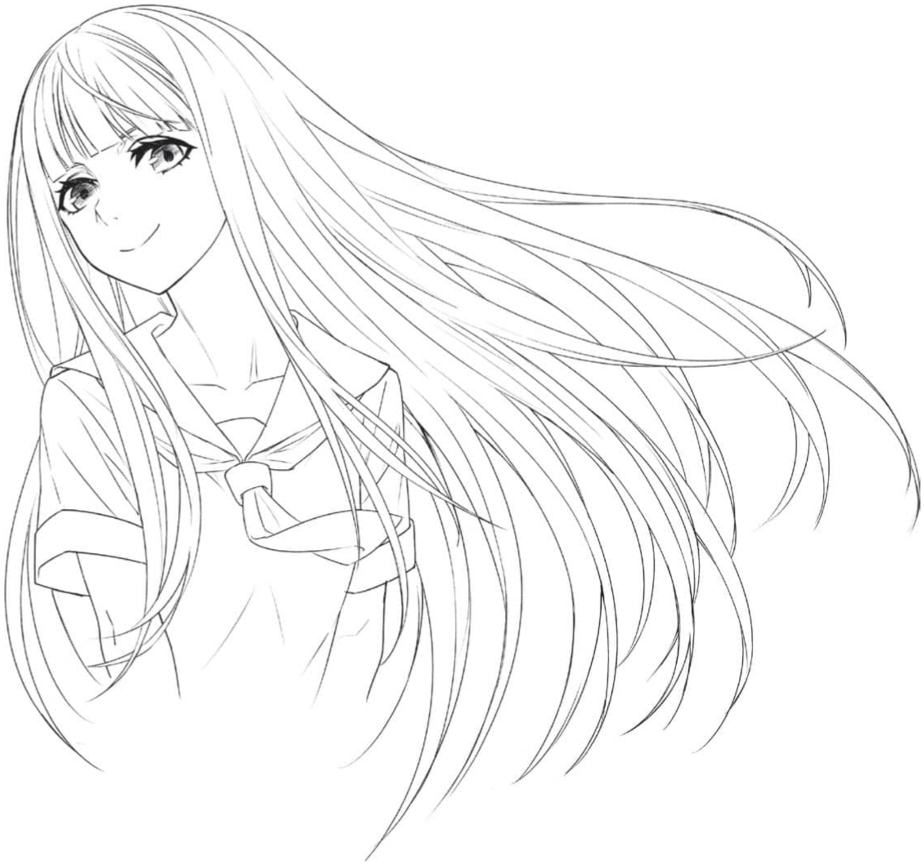
Messy hair when just waking up
Short hair styled for business



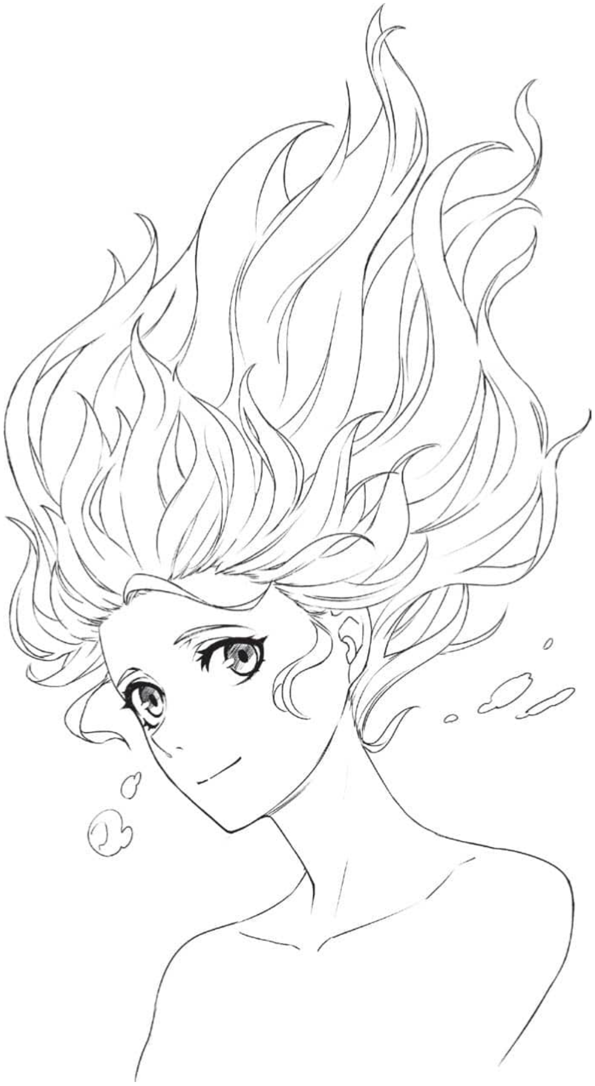
A formal style for a special occasion

Expressing Movement

Hair moves and changes shape as it is blown by the wind or when the body moves. Hair movement is an essential element to drawing dynamic manga characters.



Blown by the wind



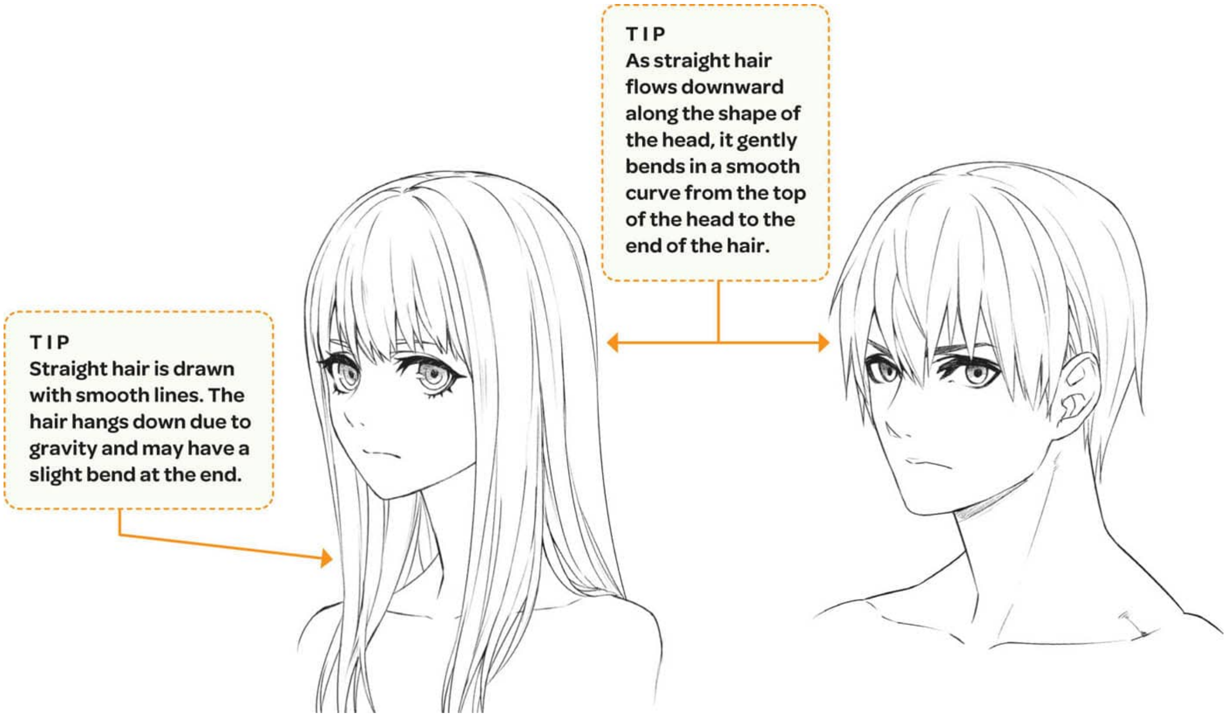
Floating in the water

Types of Hairstyles

There are countless variations in hairstyles for men and women, but the classification is surprisingly simple. Here, you'll learn the basic classification of hairstyles, which is the standard for drawing hair.

Hair Texture

Hair textures can be broadly divided into two types: straight and curly. By combining these two, various hairstyles can be created.

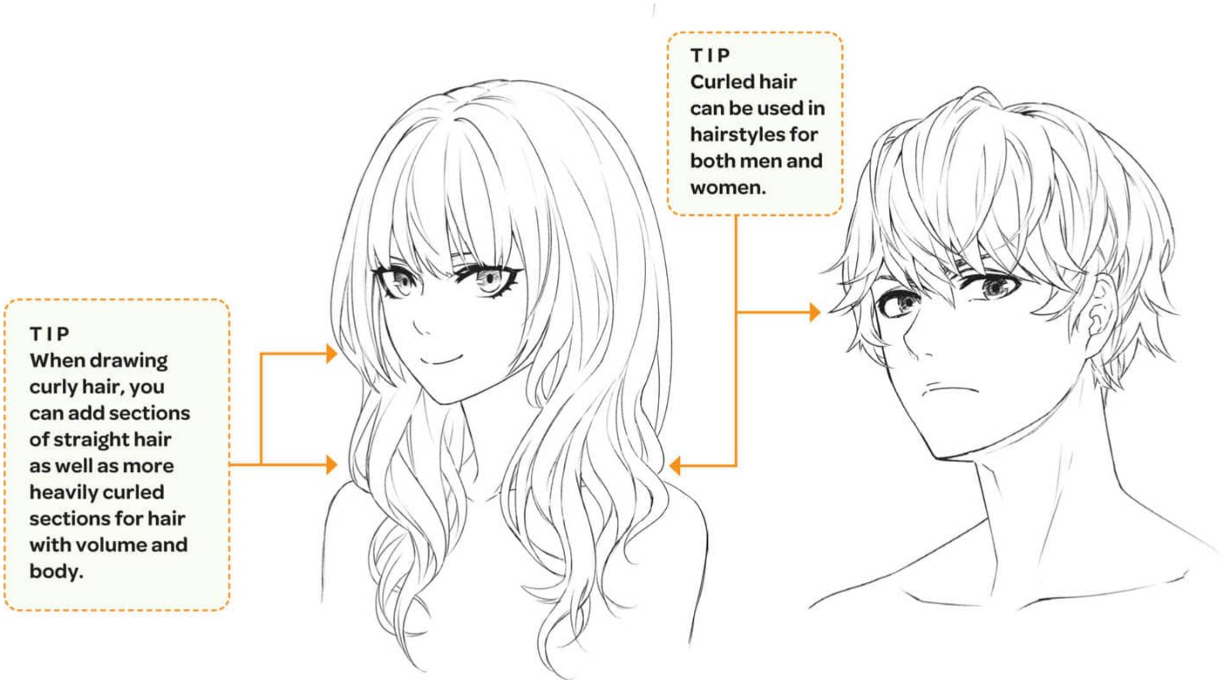


TIP
As straight hair flows downward along the shape of the head, it gently bends in a smooth curve from the top of the head to the end of the hair.

TIP
Straight hair is drawn with smooth lines. The hair hangs down due to gravity and may have a slight bend at the end.

STRAIGHT

Straight hair grows straight down from the root without resisting gravity.



TIP
When drawing curly hair, you can add sections of straight hair as well as more heavily curled sections for hair with volume and body.

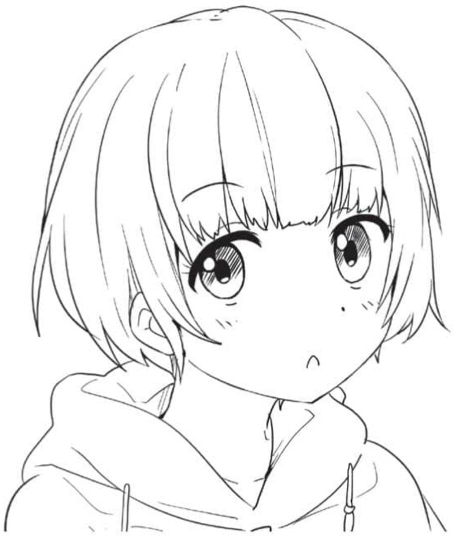
TIP
Curled hair can be used in hairstyles for both men and women.

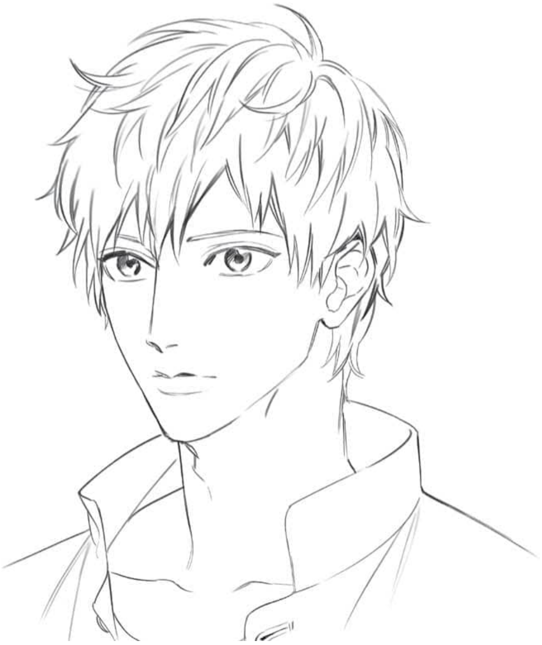
CURLY

Curly hair grows with bends and waves from the root and appears to defy gravity.

Hair Length

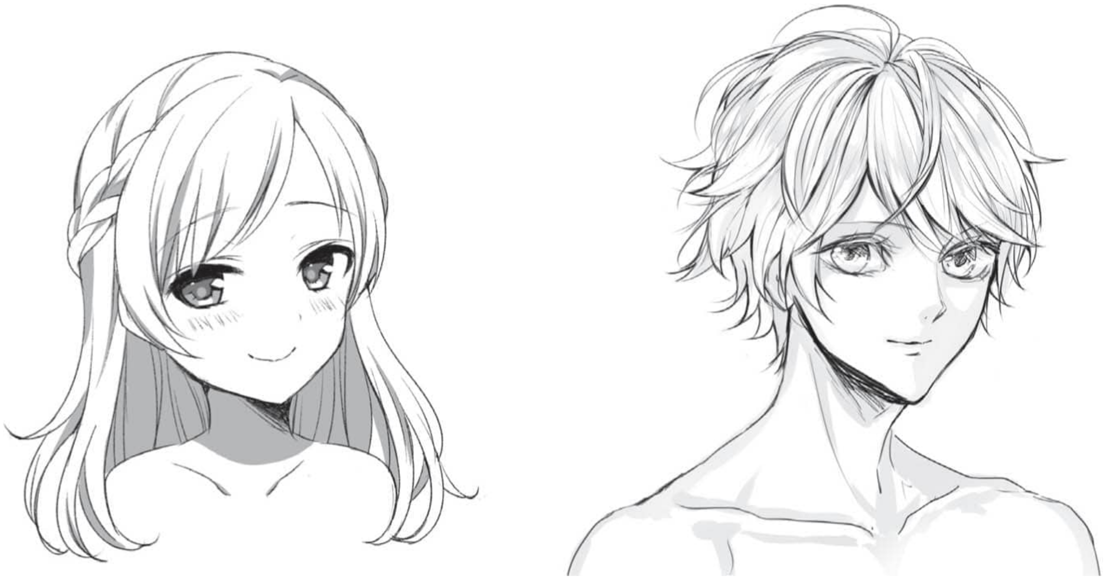
Hair length is the most obvious way to classify hairstyles. They are divided into three types: short, medium, and long.





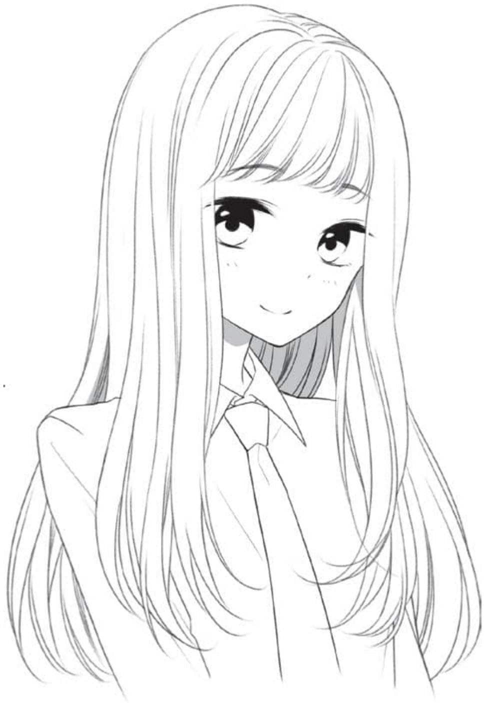
SHORT HAIR

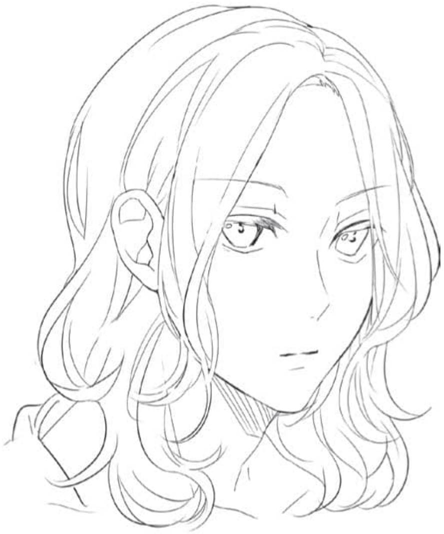
Short hairstyles are those where the ends of the hair fall between the top of the ear and the bottom of the chin.



MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR

Medium-length hairstyles are those from below the chin to the shoulder for women and from below the ears to around the chin for men.





LONG HAIR

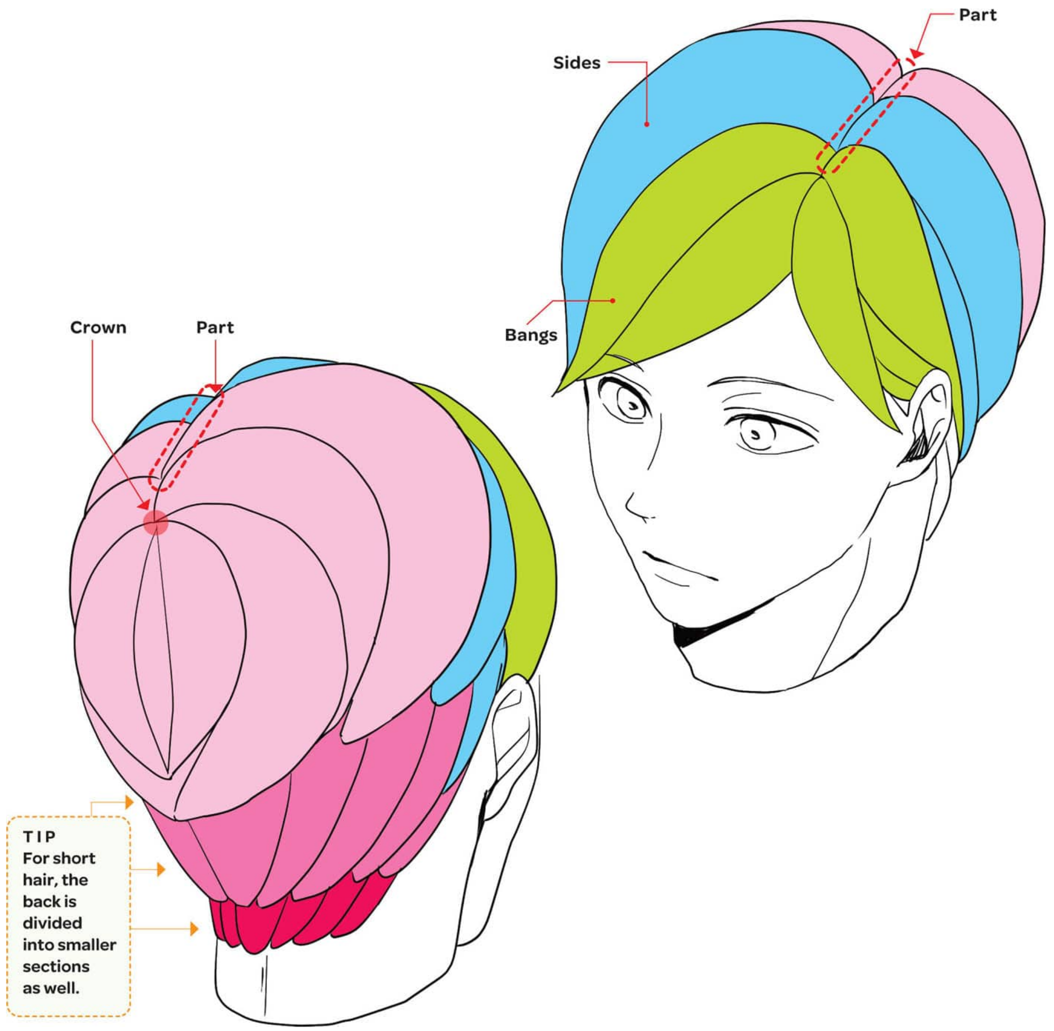
Long hair reaches past the shoulders and down to the chest for women, and under the chin for men. Hair longer than this is classified as super-long for both men and women.

Understanding How Hair Grows

In order to draw realistic hair, it is important to understand where and how hair grows on the head. Hairstylists divide hair into sections as they cut it based on how hair grows. By doing the same in your illustrations, you can make drawing hair and capturing its movement much easier.

Sectioning Hair

Hair is roughly divided into four sections around the head: front, side, crown, and back. Each section tends to grow in its own direction. The front typically grows forward toward the face, the sides grow and flow down the side of the head, and the back grows down the back. The trickiest part is the crown of the head. This is where the sides and back come together and form a swirl. Hair that grows in a different direction from the rest is called a cowlick.

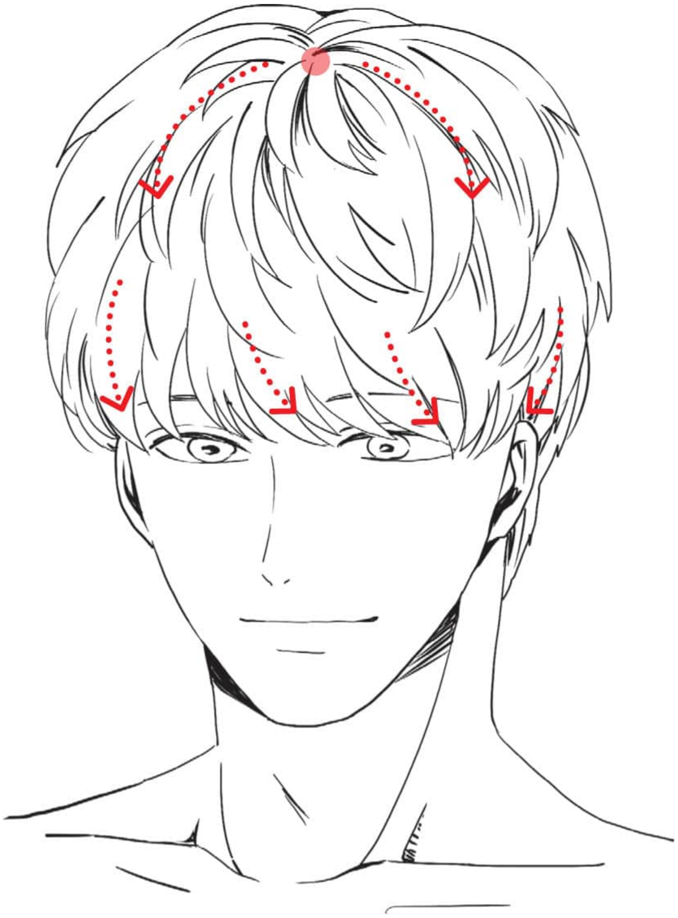


TIP
For short hair, the back is divided into smaller sections as well.

Once the hair is divided into the main sections, it is divided again into several smaller subsections. Lines should be drawn from the part or crown in the direction the hair is growing. So, from the part to the bangs, the sides, and the back.

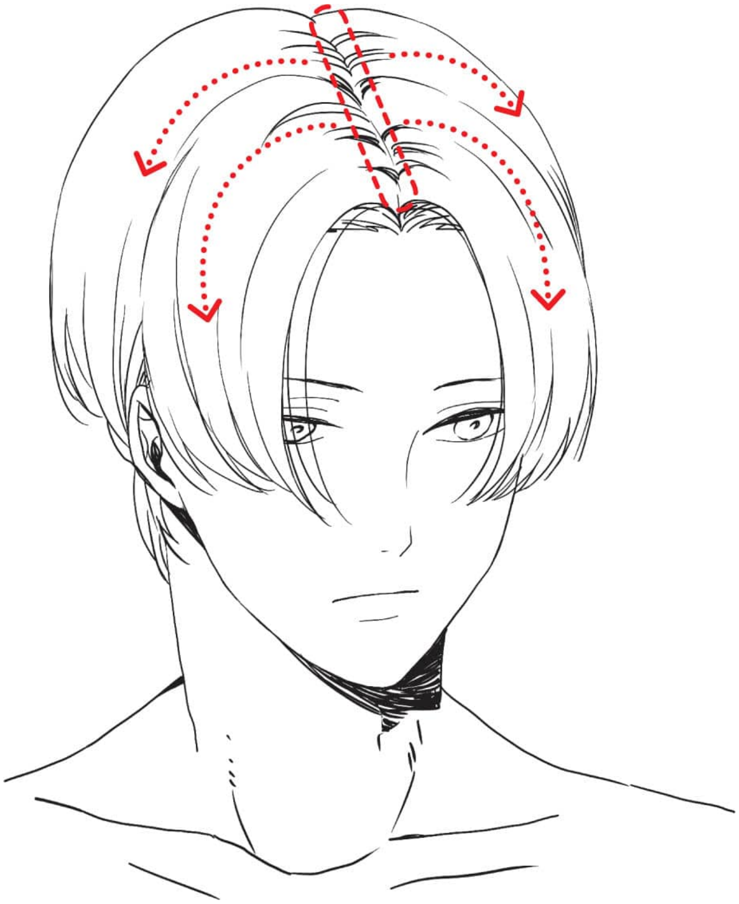
Changing Directions

The three examples below show the same length of hair in three very different styles. What makes them different? The direction in which they were combed! When brushing or combing hair, you can change the direction from which the hair is flowing. By understanding these three styles and then learning to combine them in different ways, you can create a countless variety of looks.



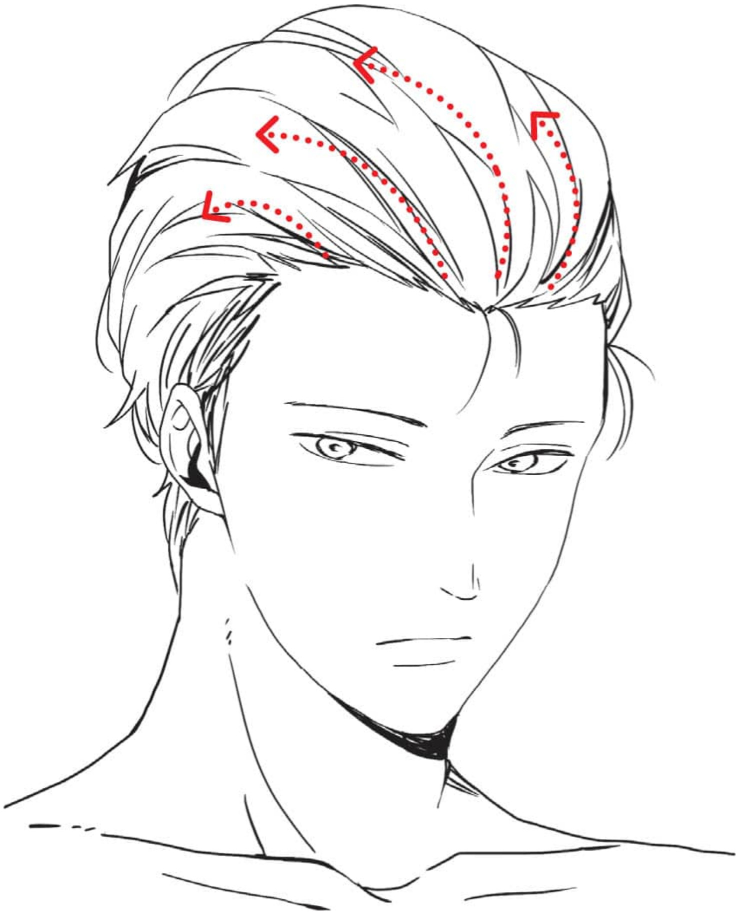
FROM THE CROWN

In this style, the hair flows from the crown on the top of the head. From the center point, the hair flows radially (in a circle) along the shape of the head. However, if you draw all the hairs from the same position as the starting point, it looks a little strange. So, you'll need to shift the position where the hairs grow along the shape of the head.



FROM THE PART

You can part a character’s hair on the left, right, or center. It’s totally up to you! Here, the part is in the center with the hair hanging more toward the face. The hairs all grow out of the part, but appear to bend and curve with the shape of the head.



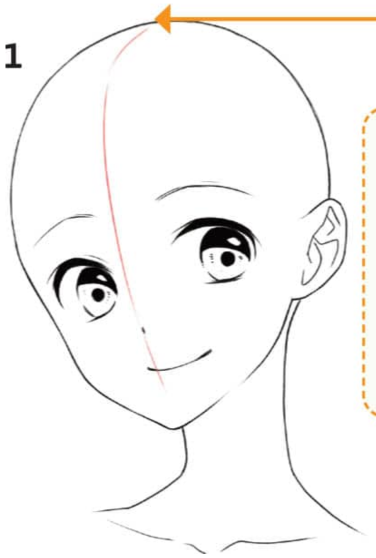
FROM THE HAIRLINE

Starting from the hairline of the forehead can create a dramatic look. In this style, the hair is drawn with a lot of height, which makes it appear to have volume. To achieve a combed back look, the hair would be drawn tight against the scalp.

Basic Steps to Drawing Hair

The appearance of hair changes depending on the texture and length, but the basic idea of dividing hair into sections (front, sides, crown, and back) does not change. In this section, you'll learn step-by-step how to draw a basic female and male hairstyle.

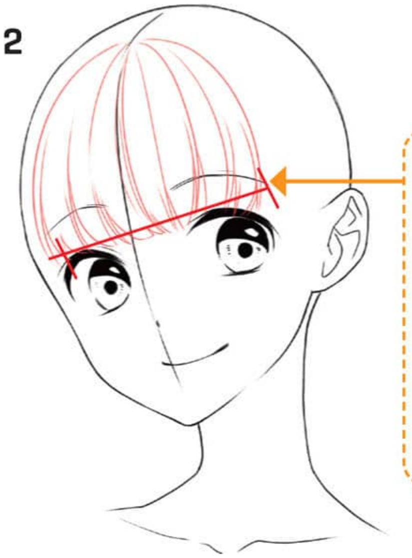
Medium-Length, Straight Hair—Front View



TIP
Draw a guideline dividing the head from back to front.

Draw the outline of the head while paying attention to the roundness of the head. Add a guideline marking the center of the head from back to front. This guideline will become the part.

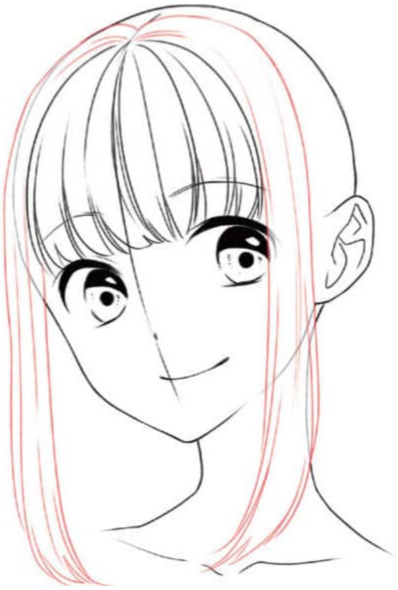
2



TIP
The width of the bangs should be around the outer edges of both eyebrows.

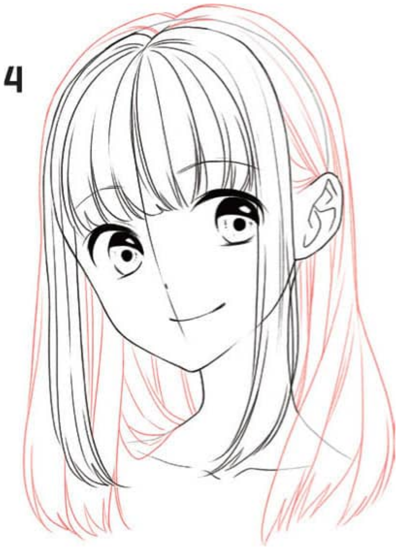
While continuing to pay attention to the roundness of the forehead, draw the bangs radially from the hairline.

3



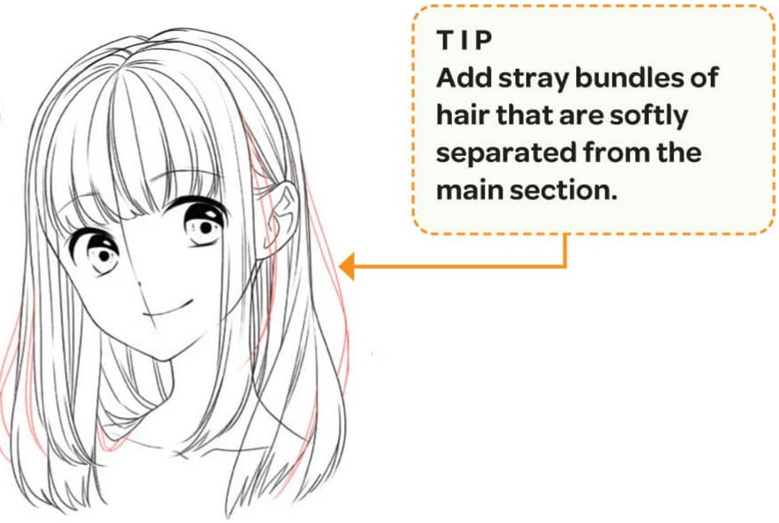
Add hair to either side of the face from the part at the top center of the head. Curve the hair that flows from the top of the head to the sides following the shape of the head.

4



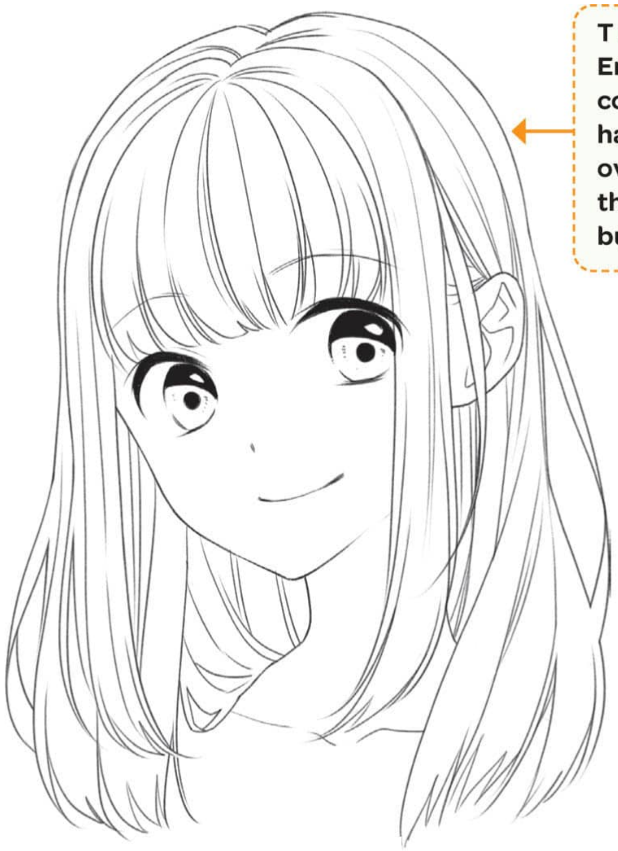
Draw the back of the hair while paying attention to how the hair hangs down on the shoulders, the flow of hair behind the ears, the hair that comes to the front of the shoulders, and the ends of the hair.

5



TIP
Add stray bundles of hair that are softly separated from the main section.

Add thin bundles of hair to the sides and back. These stray sections of hair add to the realism of the character.



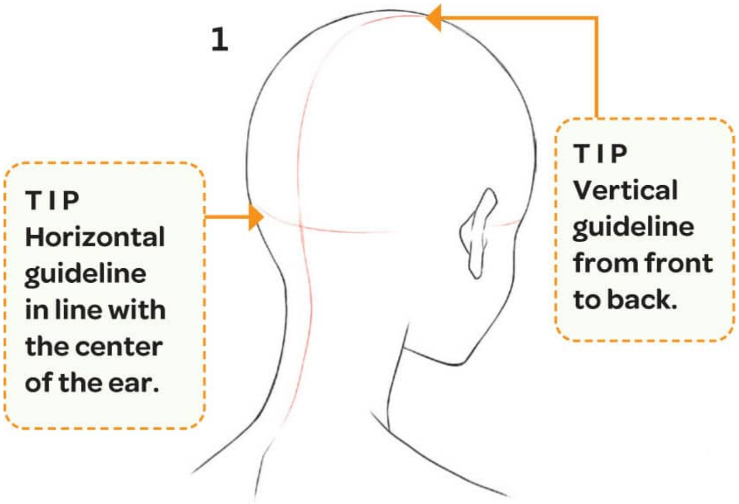
TIP
Erase and connect the hair lines that overlap with the separated bundles.

FINISHED

The finished medium-length, straight hairstyle.

Medium-Length, Straight Hair—Back View

1

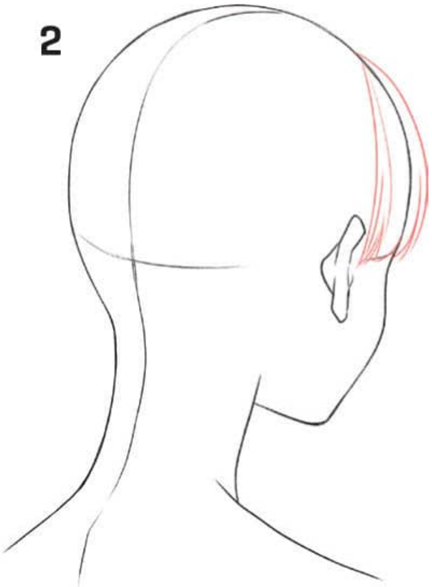


TIP
Horizontal guideline in line with the center of the ear.

TIP
Vertical guideline from front to back.

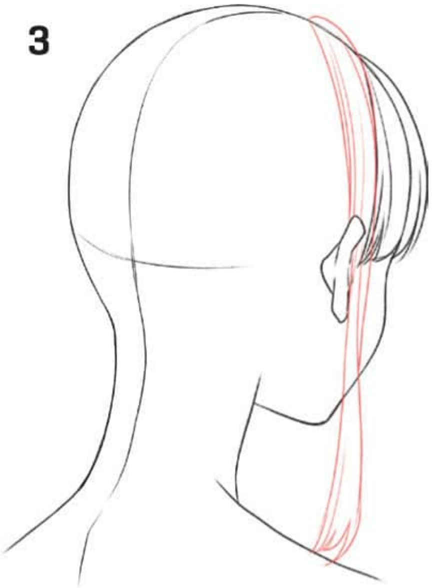
Draw an outline of the head. Add guidelines for the center of the head, dividing the head from front to back and from right to left.

2



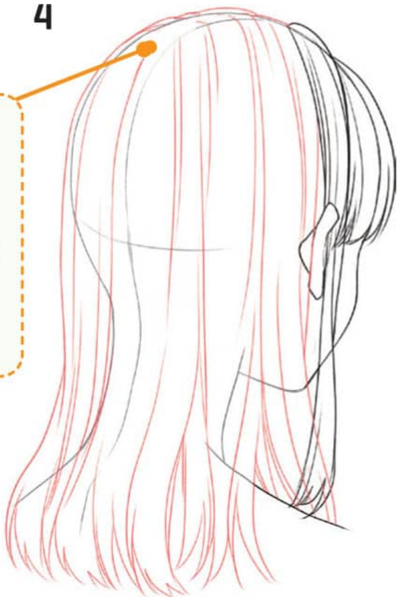
You can’t see the front hairline of the bangs when viewed from behind, but for this style, they end at the middle of the ear. Using the horizontal guidelines as the end point, add the bangs.

3



Draw the side hair section in front of the ears in the same way as the bangs. Draw the hair from the top of the head to the ends following the shape of the head.

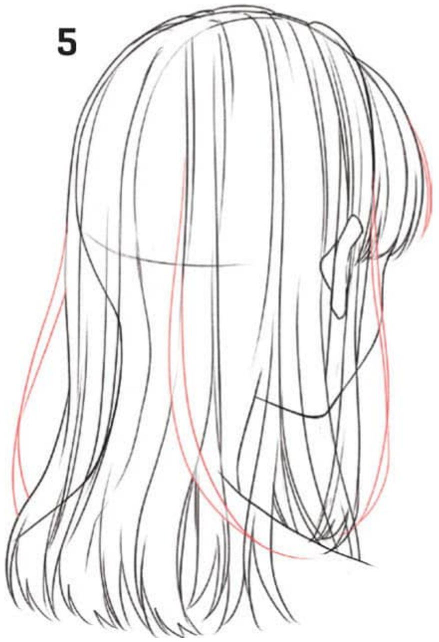
4



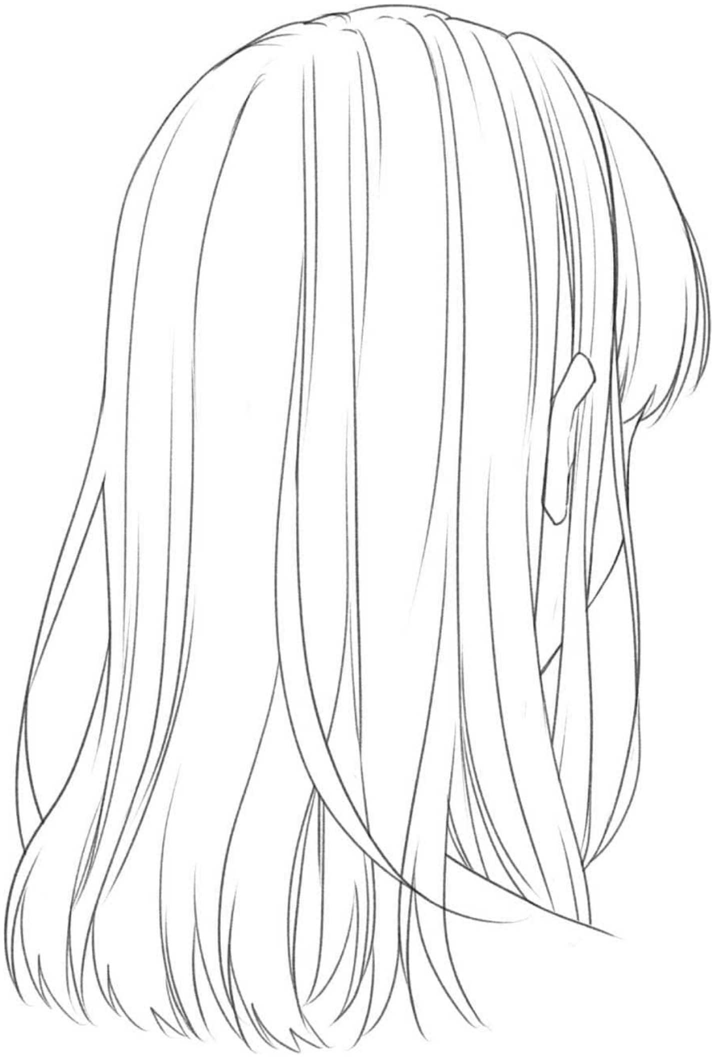
TIP
Draw the back of the hair radially out of the crown.

Draw the back section of hair from the center part and the crown. The hair should follow the shape of the head.

5



Add a few separated bundles of hair to the bangs, sides, and back hair to give a three-dimensional and natural look.

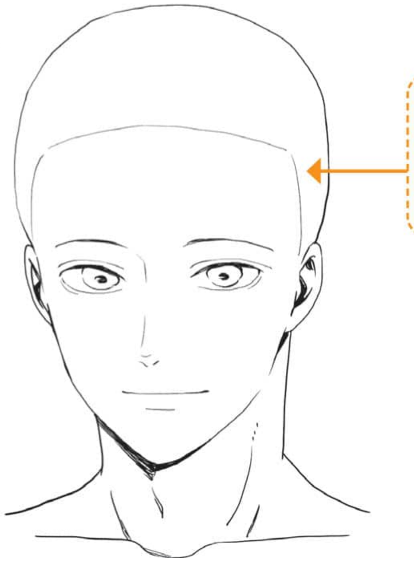


FINISHED

Erase the lines where the main hair and separated bundles overlap. Finish the bangs and side hair in the same way.

Short, Wavy Hair—Front View

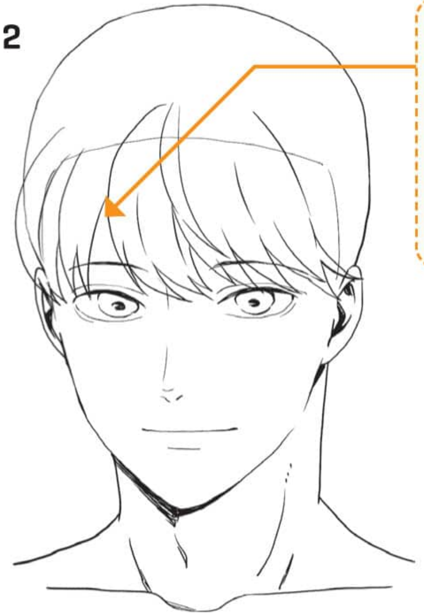
1



TIP
Add a guideline for the front hairline.

Draw the outline of the head, adding a guideline for the front hairline from the forehead to the top of the ears.

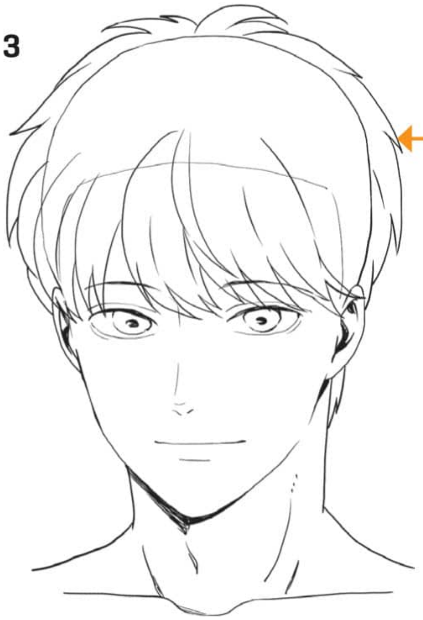
2



TIP
The hair will look thinner if the bangs part above the hairline.

Draw the bangs across the front hairline of the forehead.

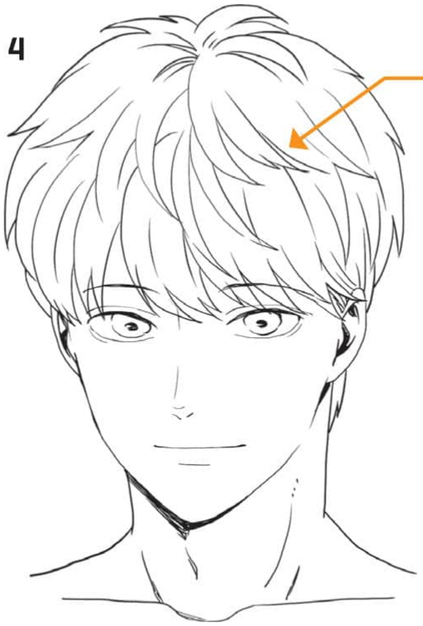
3



TIP
Be careful not to make the head too big compared to the face.

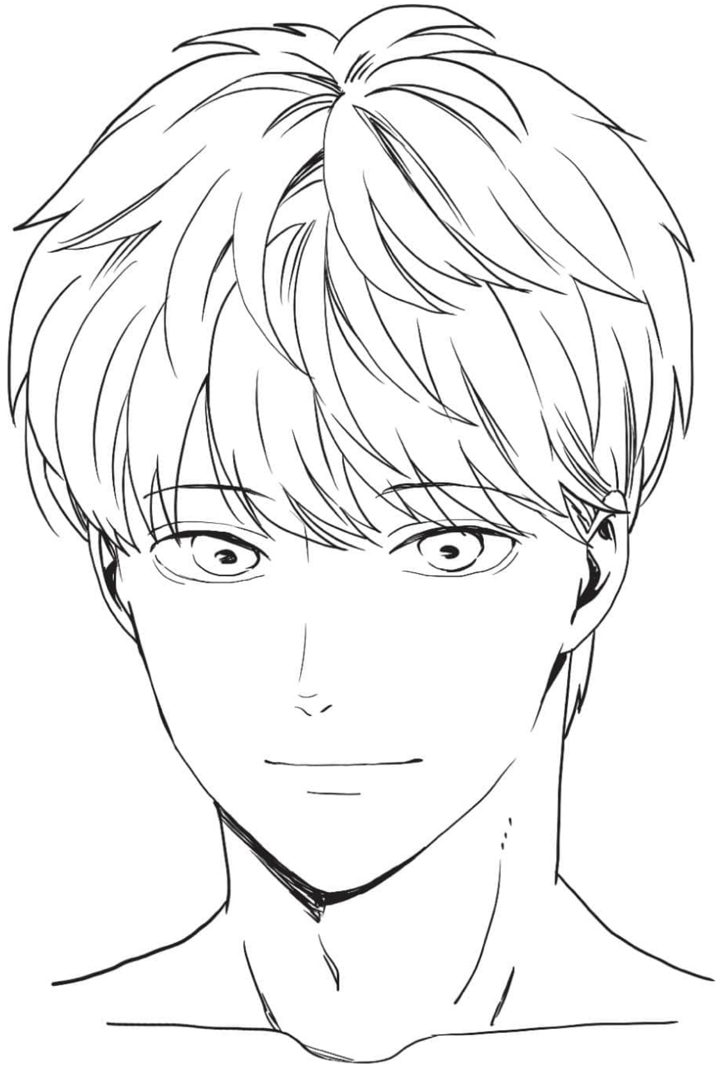
Draw the outline of the hair that wraps the entire head. Be aware of the hair's volume that spreads outward from the line of the head. You don't want to have too much hair.

4



TIP
Add sections of hair overlapping and radiating out from the crown.

Draw a whorl of hair from the crown on the top of the head. Add smaller sections of hair, keeping in mind that the short hair sections overlap.

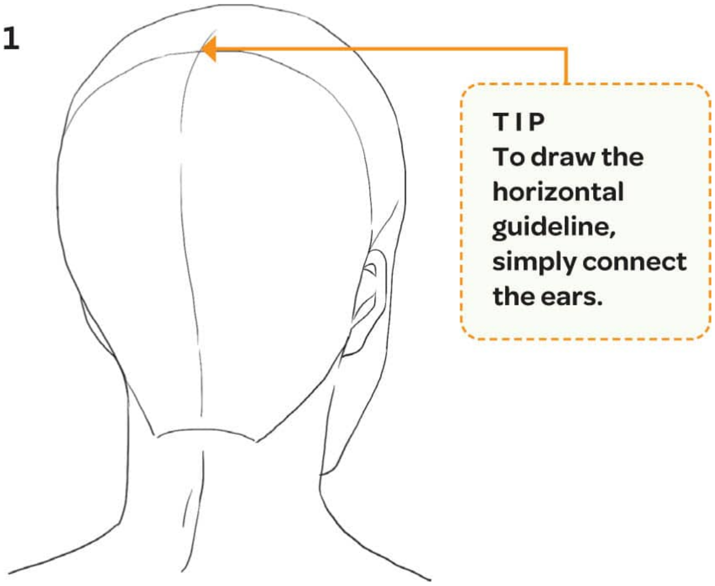


FINISHED

Add finer single strands of hair throughout the larger sections. Add them lightly while checking for balance. It will look unnatural if you draw too many of them.

Short, Wavy Hair—Back View

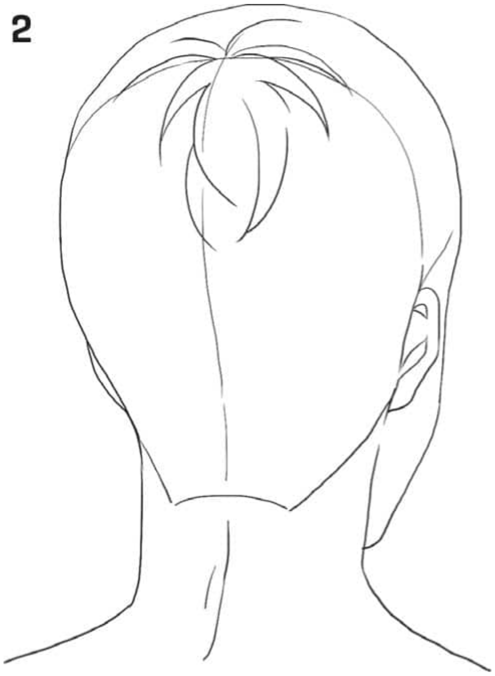
1



TIP
To draw the horizontal guideline, simply connect the ears.

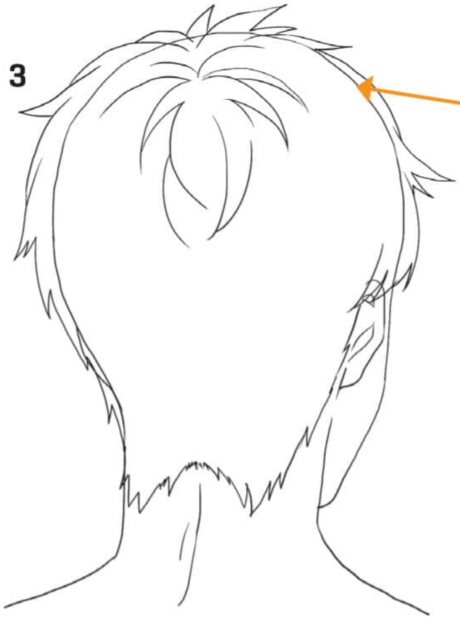
Draw the outline of the back of the head and add guidelines from front to back and side to side. The guidelines should cross at the crown of the head.

2



Draw a whorl of hair roughly centered on the crown of the head.

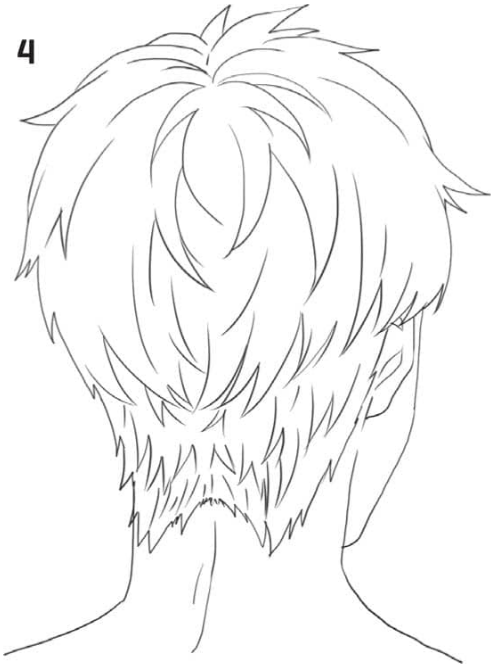
3



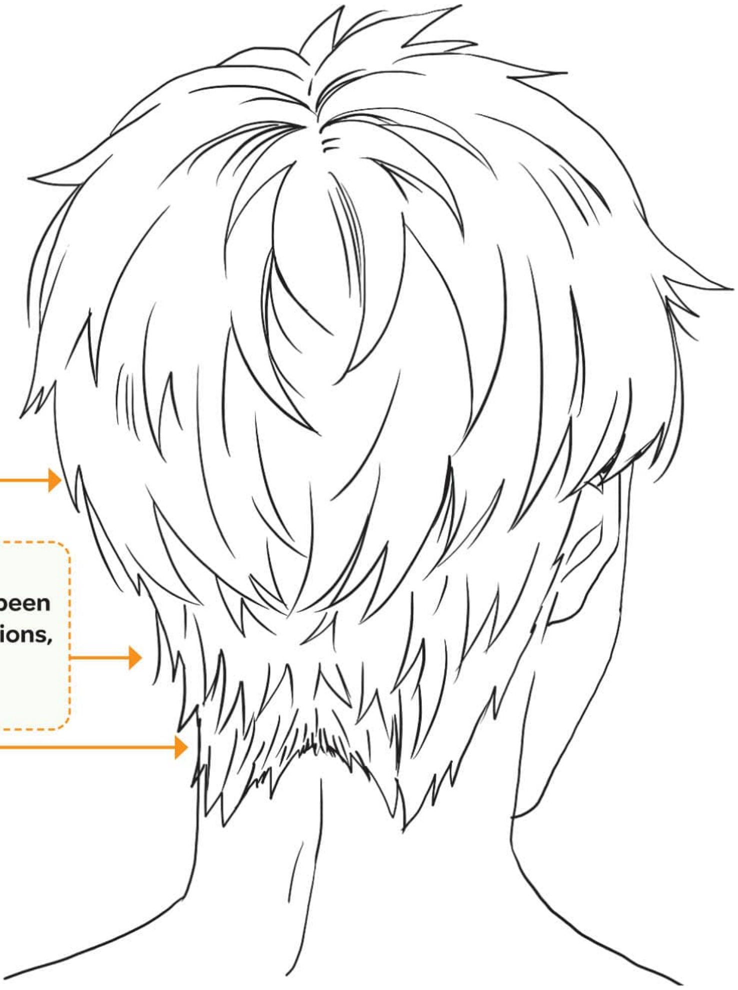
TIP
The outline of the hair follows the outline of the head.

Following the outline of the head, draw the outline of the hair covering the head. As with the front, be careful not to make your head look too big.

4



Starting from the crown, draw the hair over the entire back of the head. The hair below the ear line and around the nape is shorter than the top and sides.



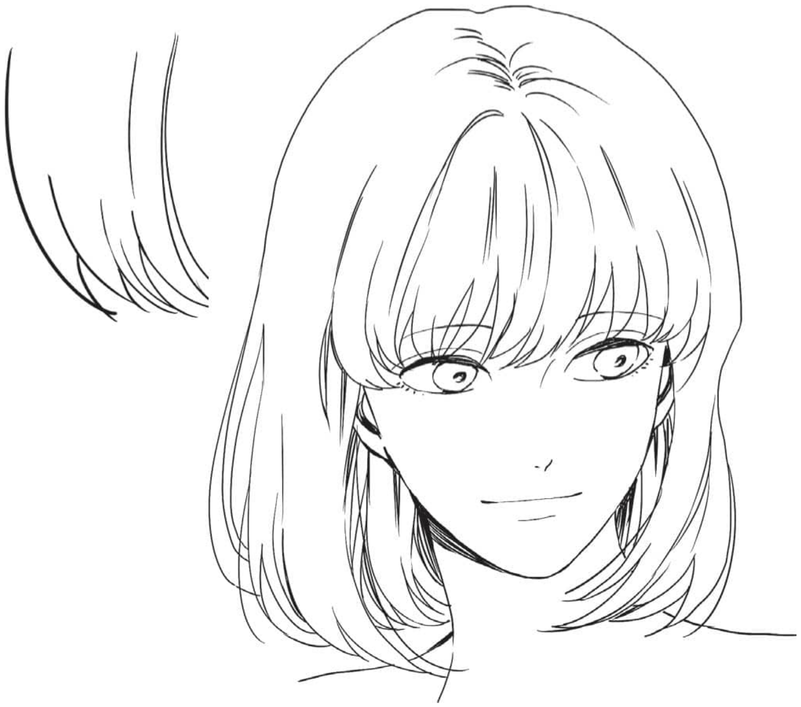
TIP
Divide the hair that has been cut short into three sections, and make the hair finer toward the bottom.

FINISHED

Add finer hair lines throughout the sections of hair in the same way as the front view. And, as with the front view, check the balance being careful not add too many.

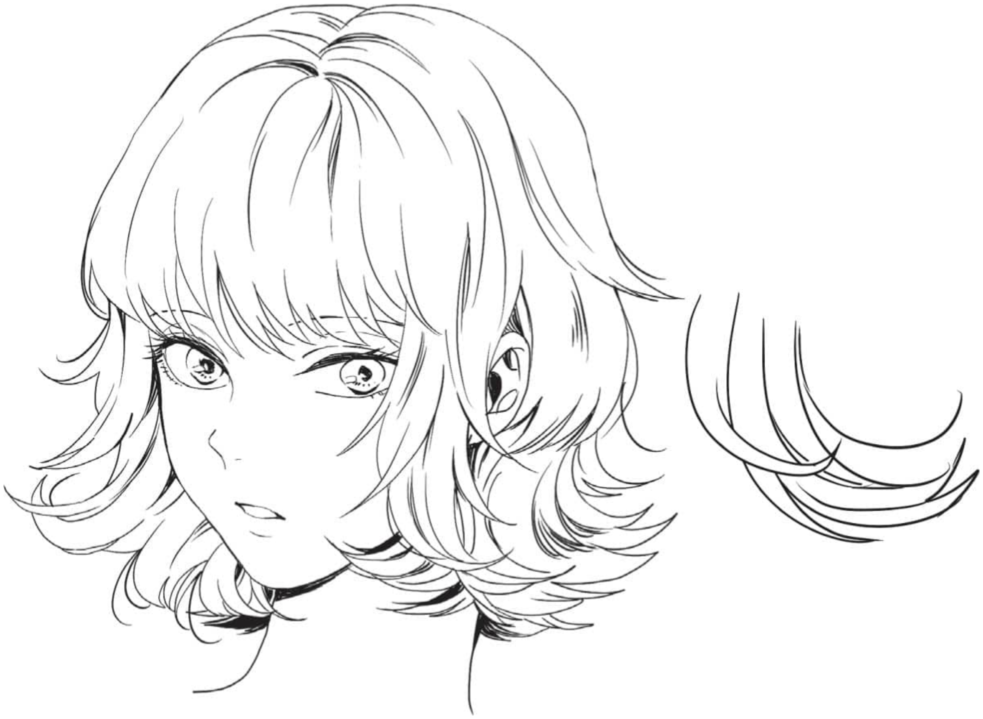
Beyond the Basics

The overall style of a character's hair changes greatly depending on how the sections and ends are drawn. Whether drawing straight hair with ends that have soft curls or ends that bounce or roll, learning to go beyond the basics will expand your possibilities.



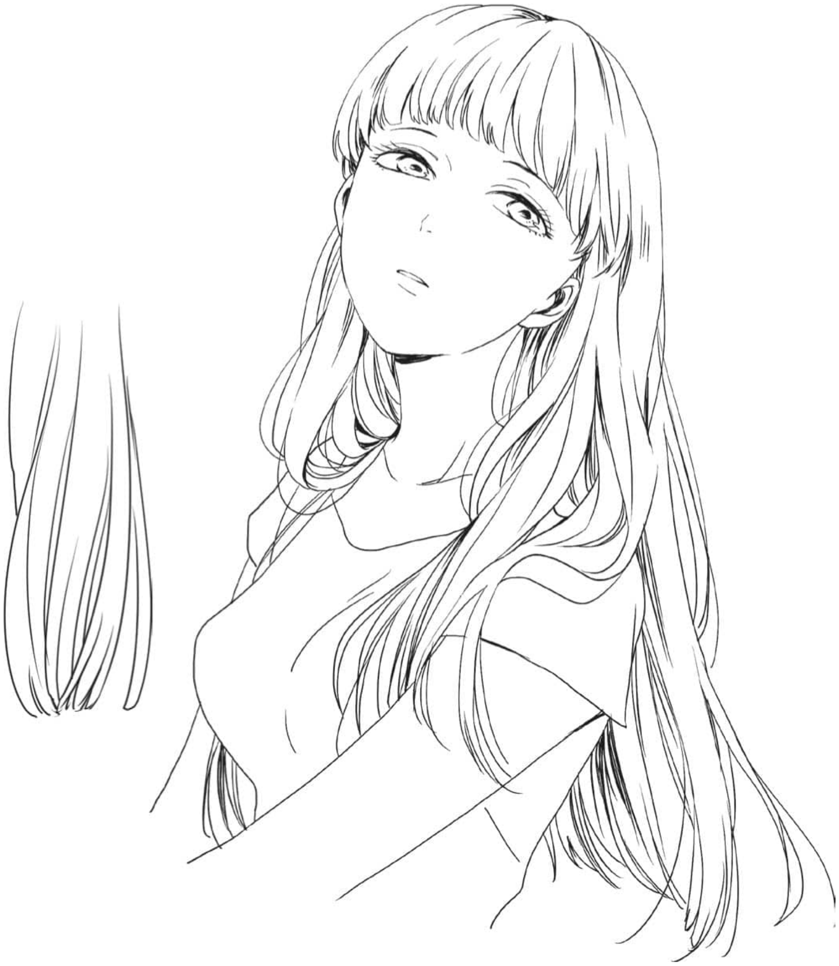
GENTLE BENDS

Gentle bends at the ends of straight hairstyles are the easiest to draw and achieve a simple, natural look.



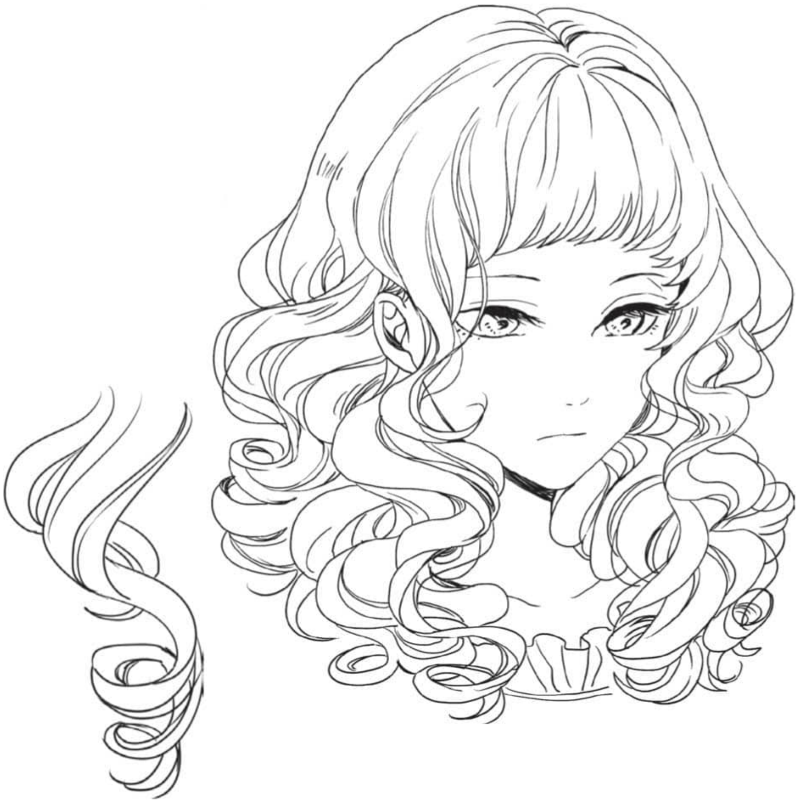
BOUNCY WAVES

Adding pronounced curves at the end of wavy hair suggests light, bouncy hair that defies gravity. The ends overlap and change direction.



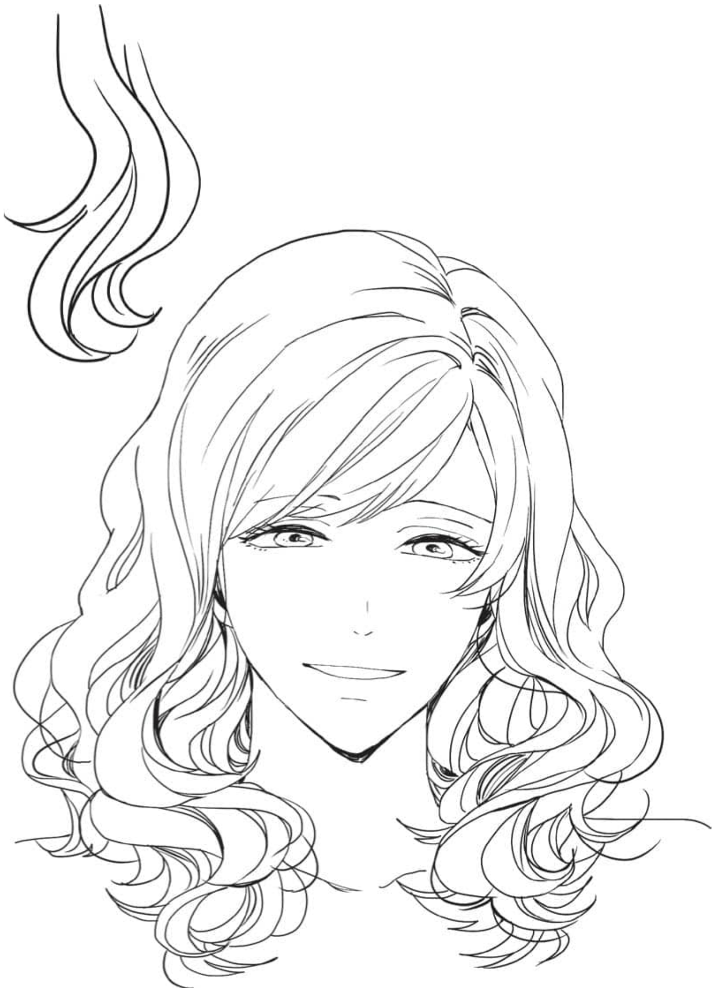
BLUNT BUNDLES

Straight hair hangs down without resisting gravity. The ends of a blunt cut are straight across the bottom, even when the hair twists and moves.



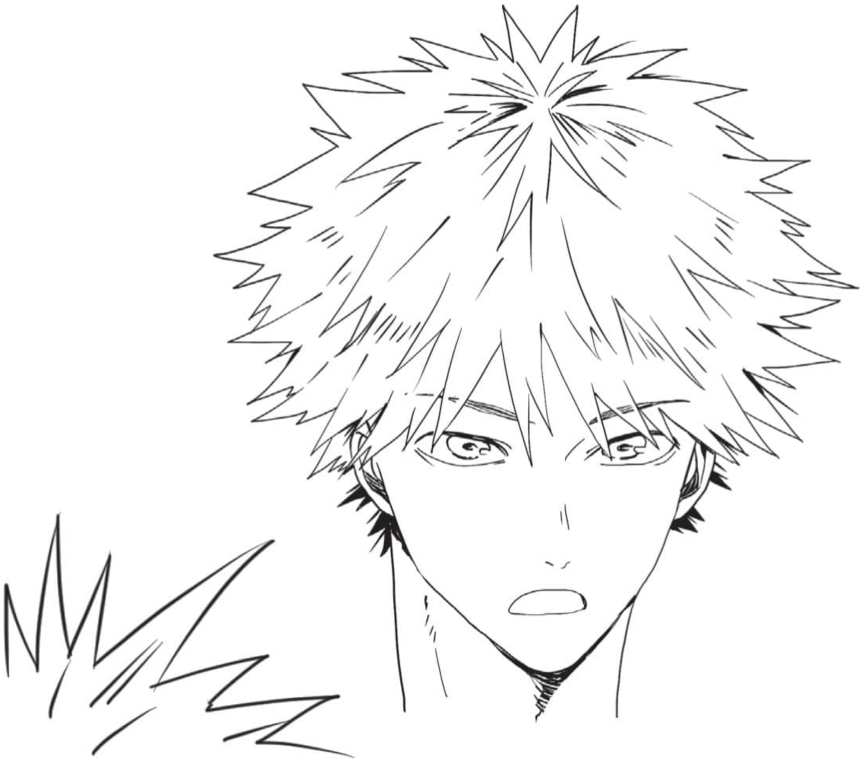
TIGHT CURLS

For coils in curly hair with tightly wound hair bundles, draw the hair sections so that they become thinner and stronger toward the ends of the hair.



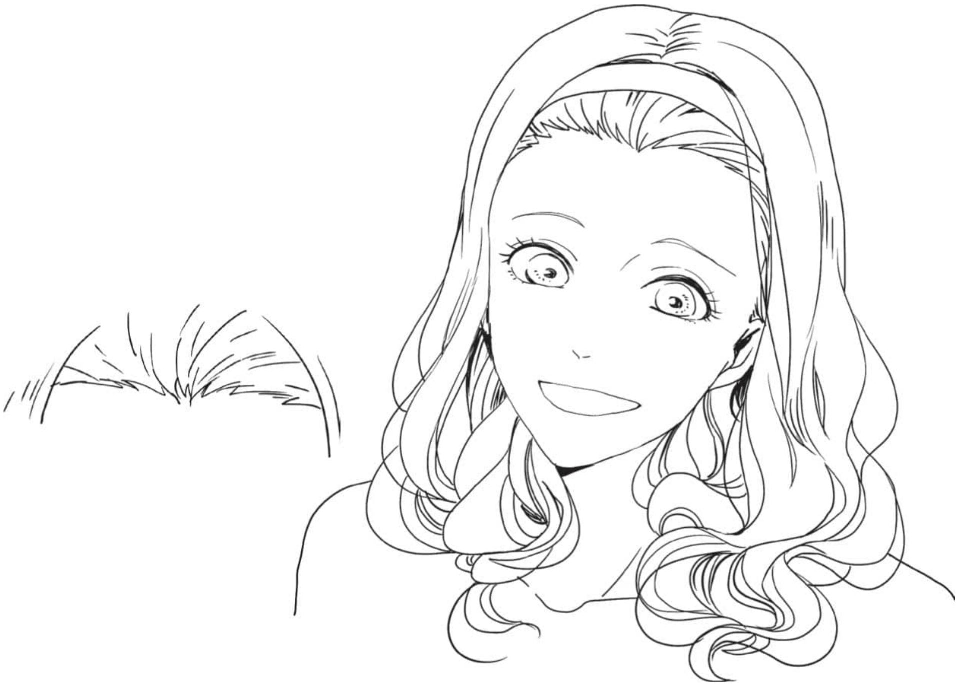
WAVY HAIR

For loose, wavy hair, draw large sections of hair that have exaggerated S-curves and bends.



SPIKY HAIR

Spiky hair, which is often seen in shōnen (boy's) manga, has the look of hard, sharp needles, with the tips of the hair extending toward the outside of the head.



HEADBANDS

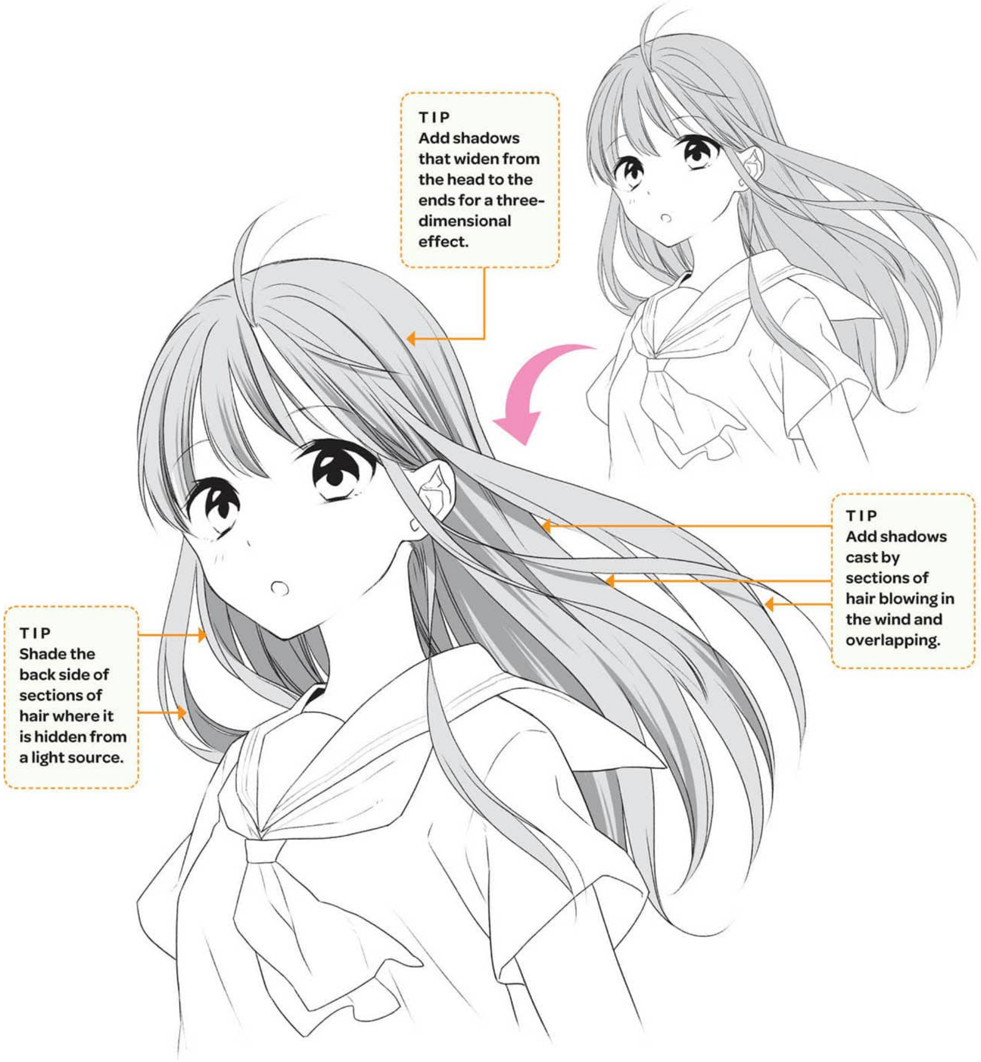
Hair grows radially from the center of the hairline to the left and right. When drawing a character with their hair pulled back with a headband, the hairline is drawn with a zigzag line.

Adding Shadows to Manga Hair

How hair casts shadows is very important when illustrating realistic manga hairstyles. In this section, you'll learn how to add shadows to various hairstyles with unique results.

Long Hair—Front View

The main places where shadows are formed on long hair are the bangs, the underside of the back hair, the overlapping parts of the hair, and the ends. The shadow on the underside of the back hair is the most important in the front view.



TIP
Add shadows that widen from the head to the ends for a three-dimensional effect.

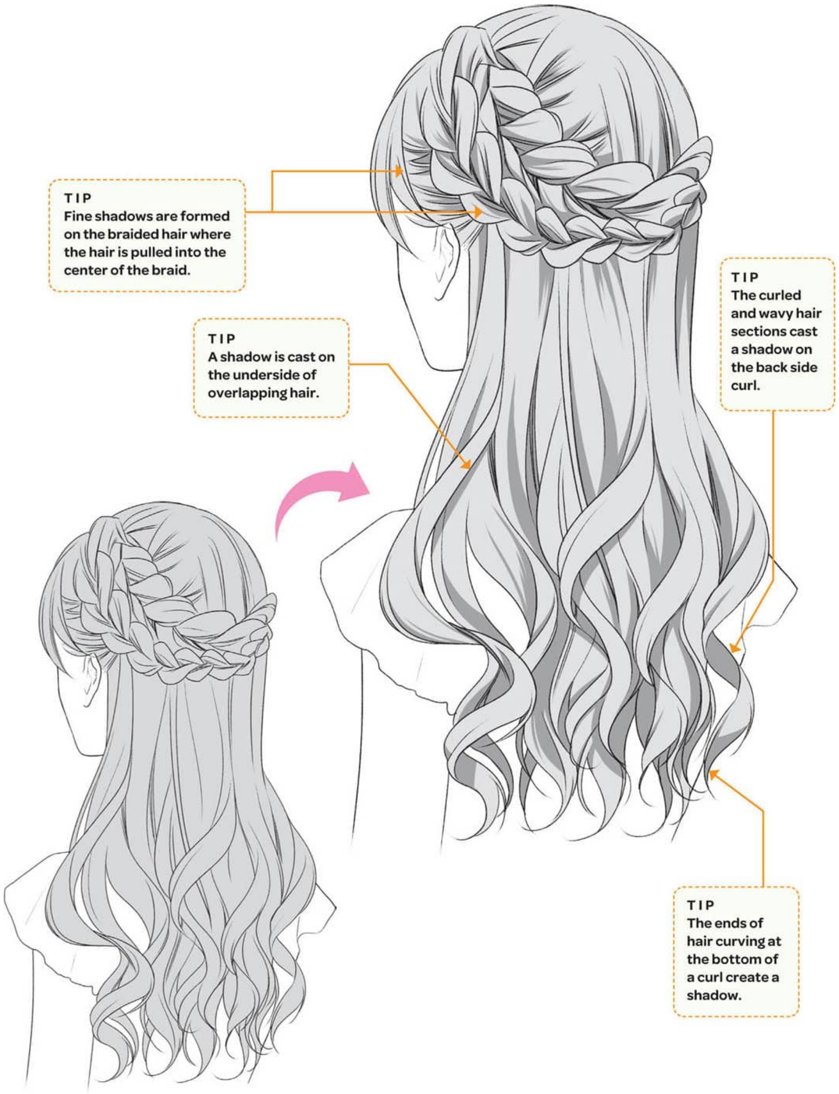
TIP
Add shadows cast by sections of hair blowing in the wind and overlapping.

TIP
Shade the back side of sections of hair where it is hidden from a light source.

Add shadows that follow the shape of the various sections of hair throughout the hairstyle. There are fewer shadows where the hair is close to the head and more as the hair extends down.

Long Hair—Back View

When viewing a hairstyle from the back, there are shadows on the parts that are braided or uniquely styled, the back side of the curled hair sections, and areas where hair is overlapping.



TIP
Fine shadows are formed on the braided hair where the hair is pulled into the center of the braid.

TIP
A shadow is cast on the underside of overlapping hair.

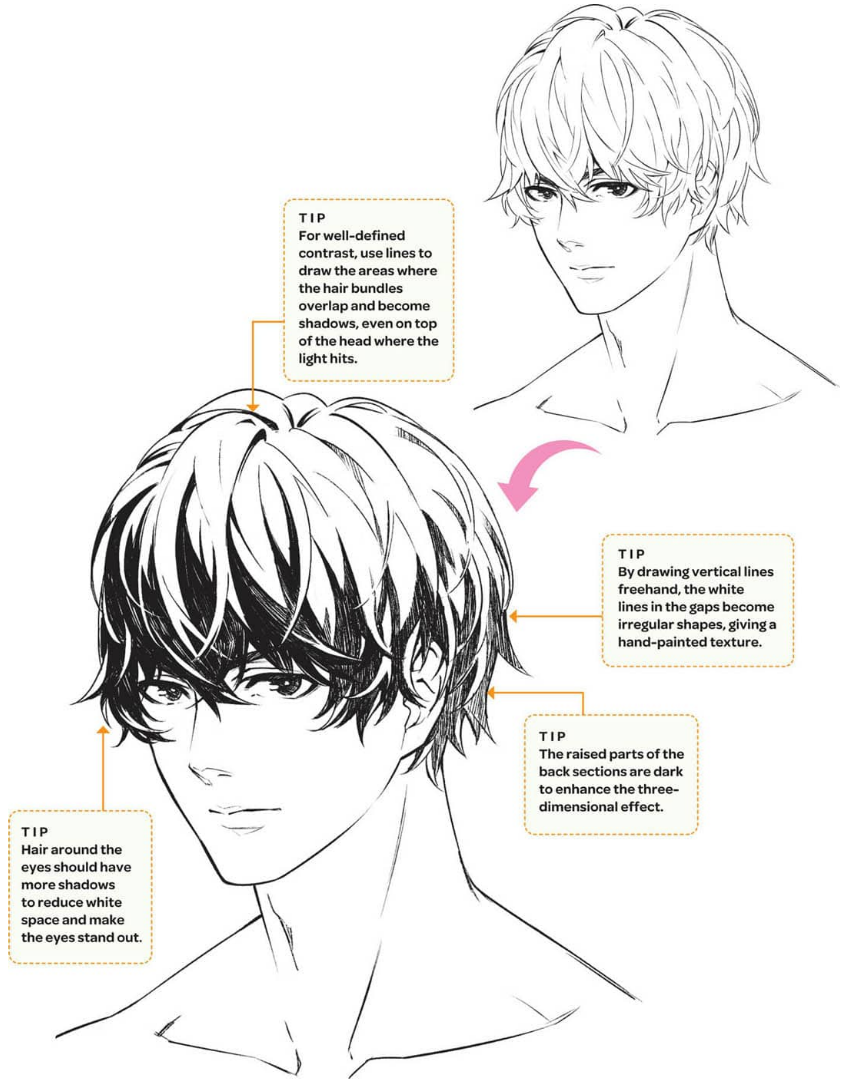
TIP
The curled and wavy hair sections cast a shadow on the back side curl.

TIP
The ends of hair curving at the bottom of a curl create a shadow.

Since the ends of the hair are wavy, the front and back positions of the hair sections are made three-dimensional when shadows are added.

Short Hair—Front View

Short hairstyles work well in scenes with dramatic lighting. For this example, imagine that the top of the head is exposed to strong light, and draw shadows only where sections of hair overlap. The strong contrast of light and dark sections produces an interesting three-dimensional effect.



TIP
For well-defined contrast, use lines to draw the areas where the hair bundles overlap and become shadows, even on top of the head where the light hits.

TIP
By drawing vertical lines freehand, the white lines in the gaps become irregular shapes, giving a hand-painted texture.

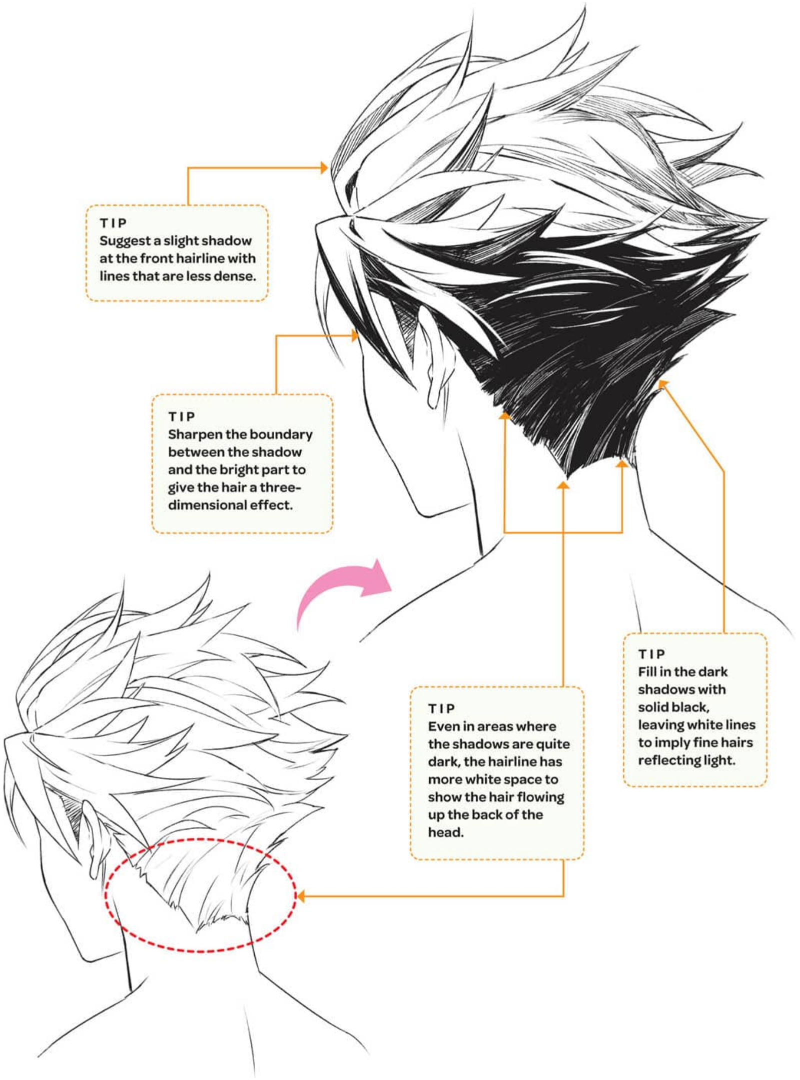
TIP
The raised parts of the back sections are dark to enhance the three-dimensional effect.

TIP
Hair around the eyes should have more shadows to reduce white space and make the eyes stand out.

It’s easy to overdo it with intense shadows and lighting. Be sure to check your work often to keep it balanced.

Short Hair—Back View

Unique hairstyles like the one shown here are even more interesting when viewed from the back. Again, exaggerated lighting has been used and the results are surprisingly easy to achieve.



TIP
Suggest a slight shadow at the front hairline with lines that are less dense.

TIP
Sharpen the boundary between the shadow and the bright part to give the hair a three-dimensional effect.

TIP
Fill in the dark shadows with solid black, leaving white lines to imply fine hairs reflecting light.

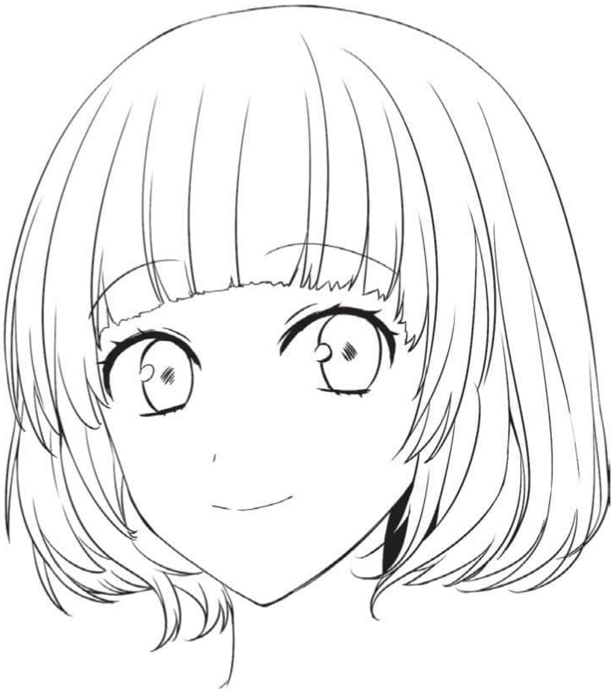
TIP
Even in areas where the shadows are quite dark, the hairline has more white space to show the hair flowing up the back of the head.

By adding shadows with lines instead of solids, a gap is created between the lines that shows the direction in which the hair is flowing.

Traditional Female Hairstyles

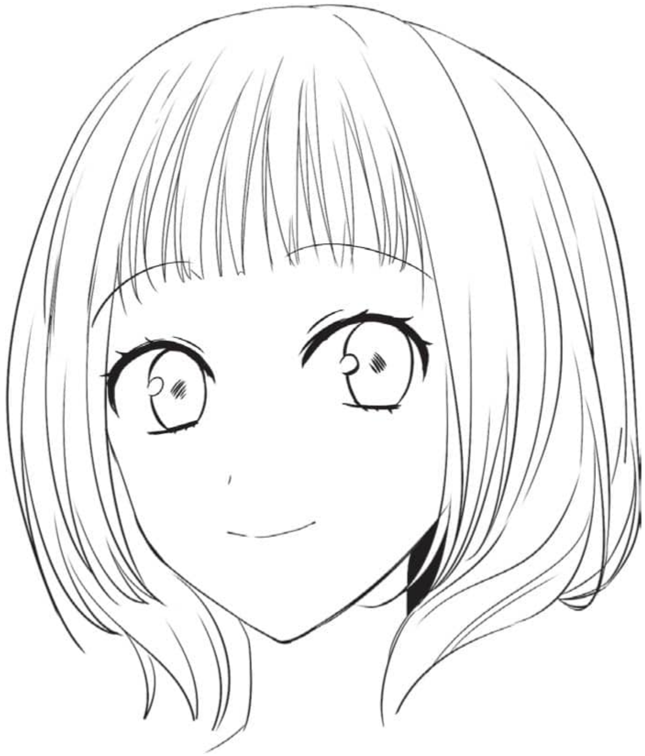
There are countless hairstyles for women—it would be impossible to cover them all! In this section, you'll find a collection of common, traditionally feminine styles to get started.

Bangs



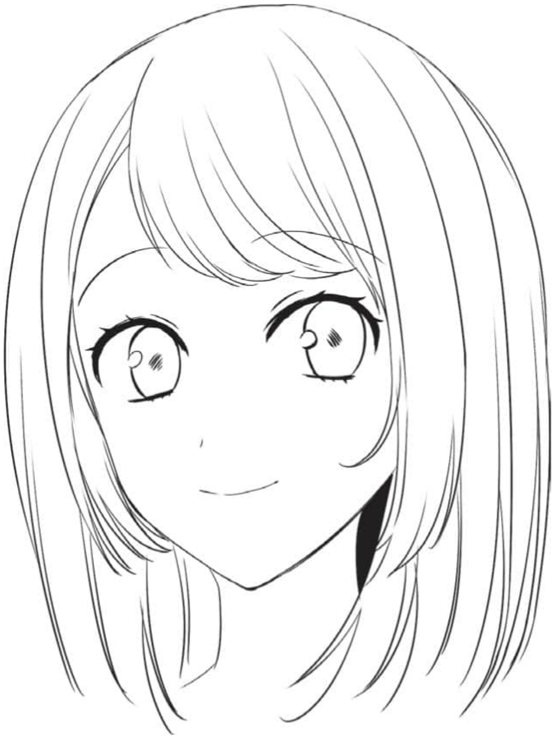
STRAIGHT, FULL BANGS

These bangs are trimmed at the same length across the forehead. This look completely hides the forehead.



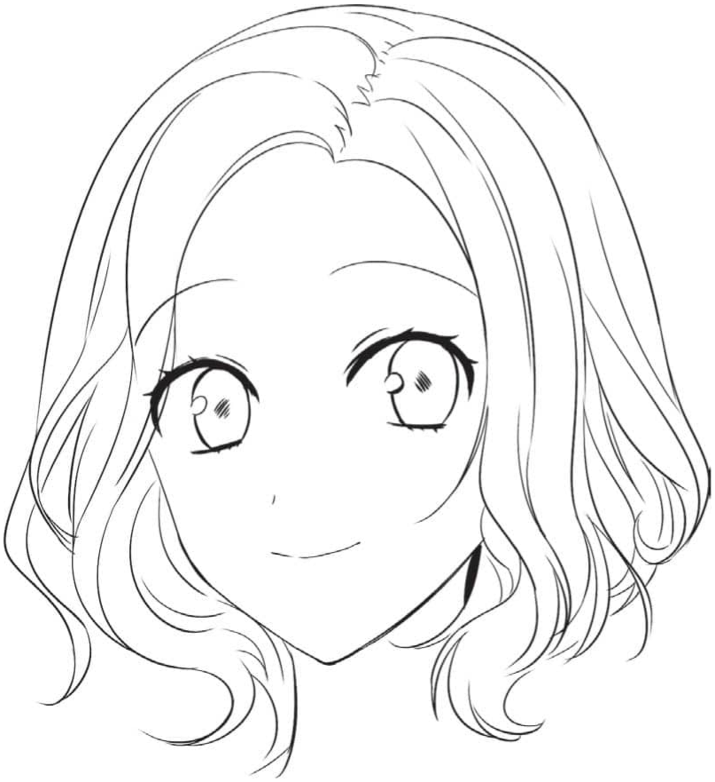
STRAIGHT, THIN BANGS

Thinner sections of bangs allow the forehead to show through. The overall look is lighter and less dense.



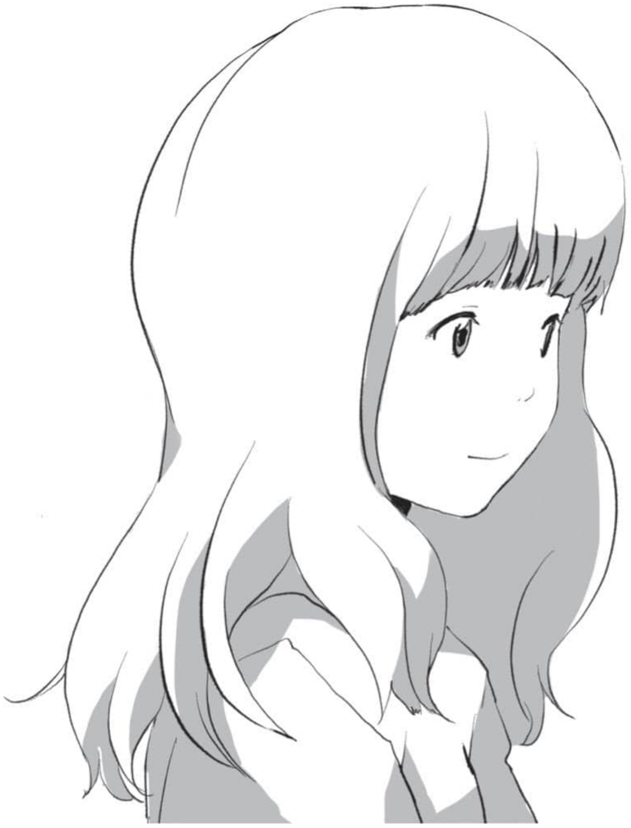
SIDESWEPT BANGS

With the bangs divided and flowing diagonally to one side, the forehead shows through. This style can be thick or thin.



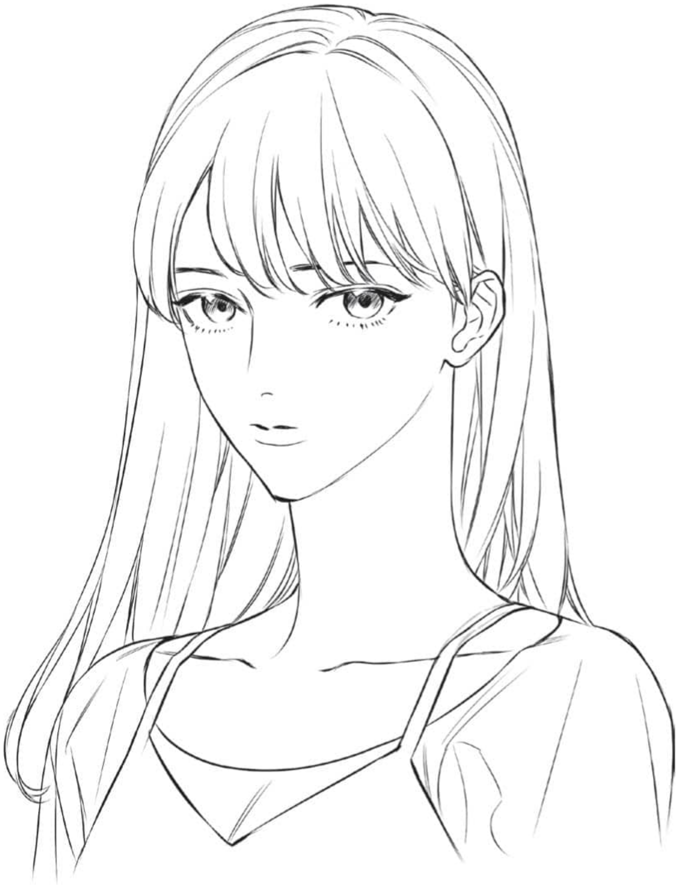
NO BANGS

Without bangs, the hair is parted and flows down around both sides of the face.



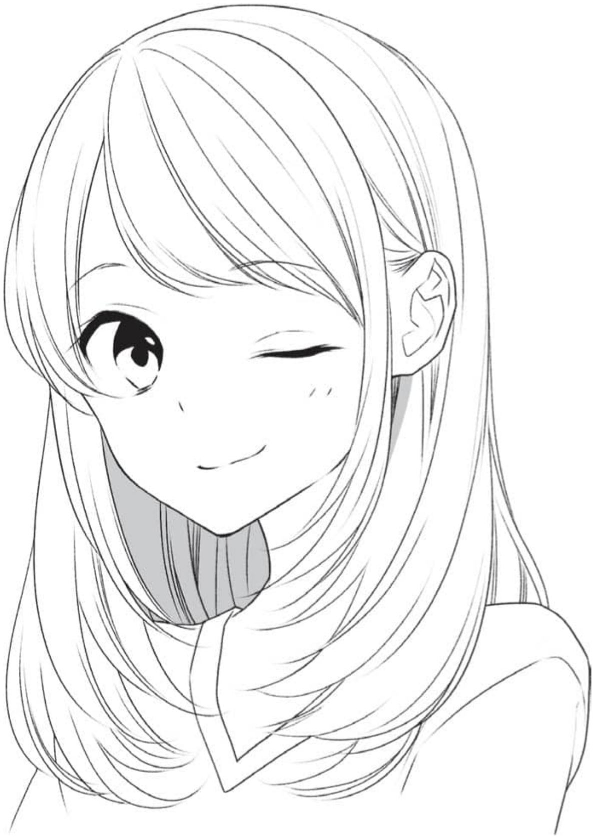
LONG HAIR, FULL BANGS

When drawing thick bangs, be sure the rest of the hair balances. The back and sides should be as full and thick.



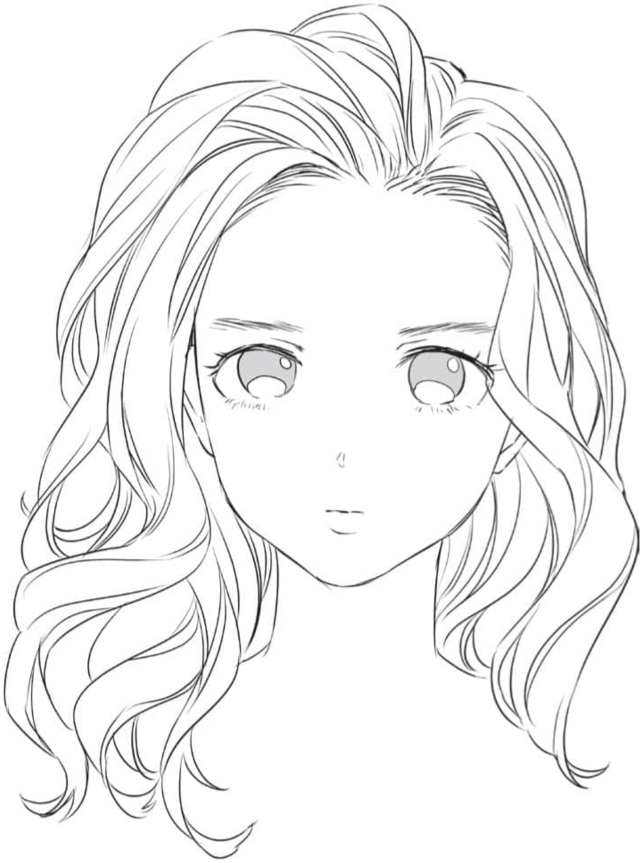
LONG HAIR, THIN BANGS

How far back on the head you take bangs will impact where the sides of the hair fall. In this look, the bangs are deep-set and the sides start at the ears.



DIAGONAL BANGS, INWARD CURLED HAIR

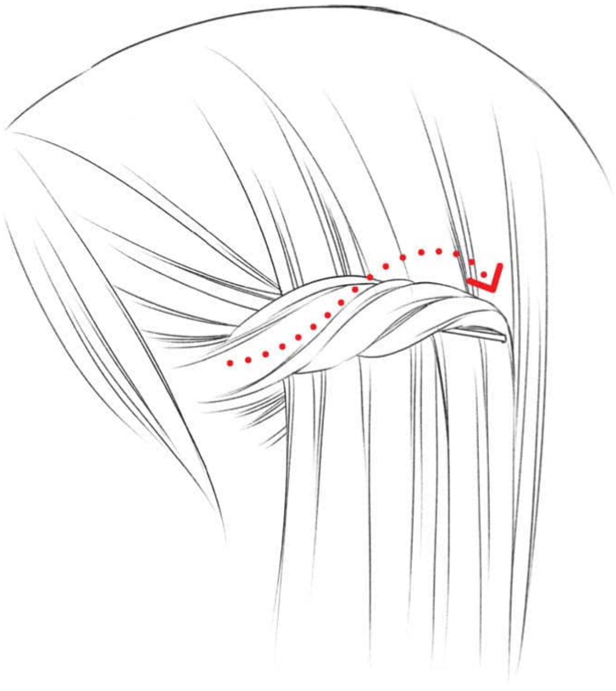
With a cute facial expression, you'll want to add a hairstyle that's just as adorable. Here, the hair has been curled toward the face at the ends, the side section tucked behind the ear, and the bangs are swept to one side.



LONG, CURLY HAIR, NO BANGS

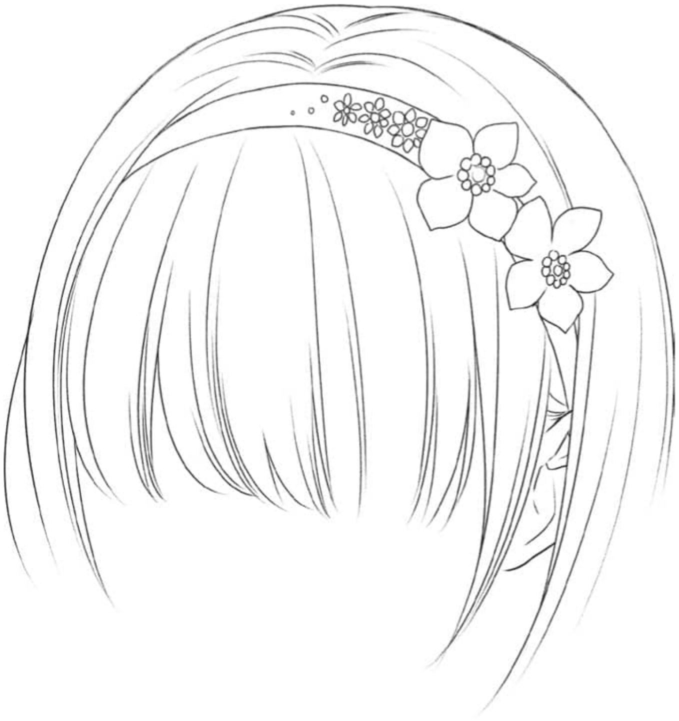
Bangs and curly hair are a challenge. The shorter the hair, the more it wants to curl up tight. For this curly style, the hair is swept back with no bangs.

Hair Accessories



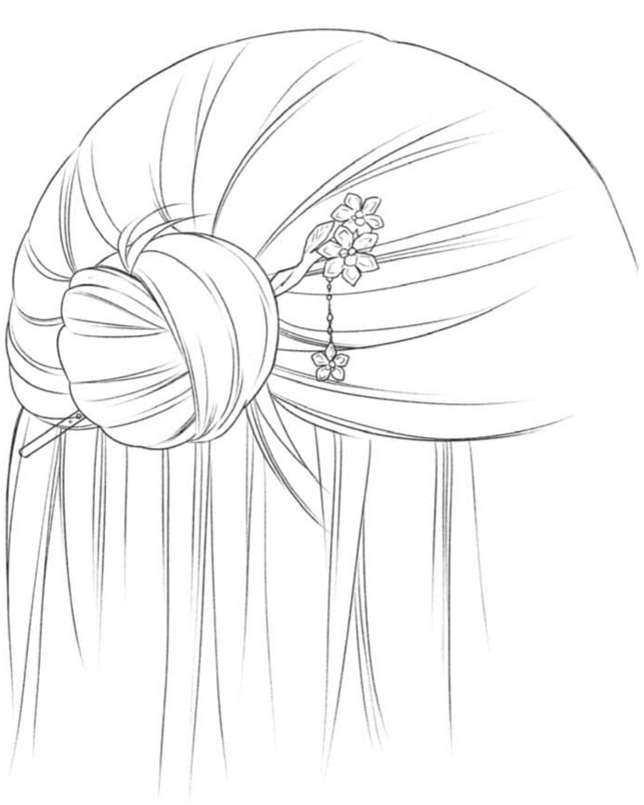
HAIRPINS

Hairpins and bobby pins are used to hold hair in place without being seen.



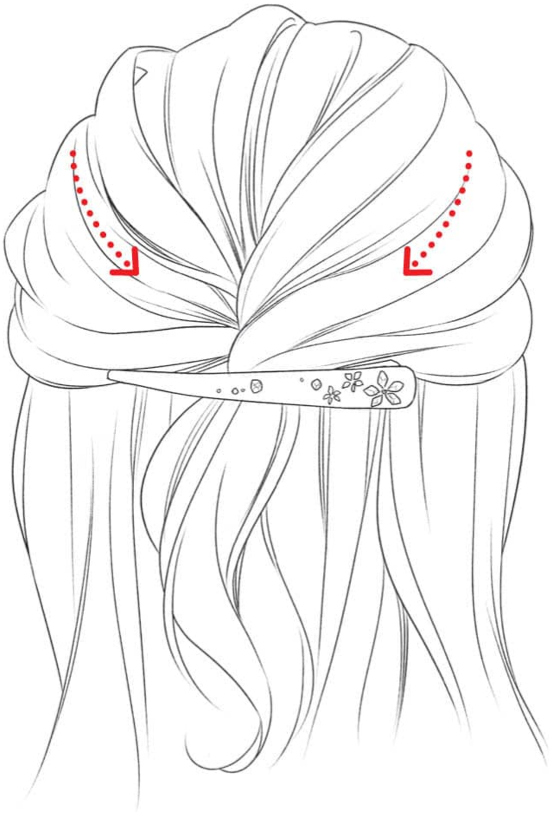
HEADBAND

Centered on the top of the head, headbands are used to hold back the hair and can be used as a decorative accessory. The ends of the headband tuck behind the ears.



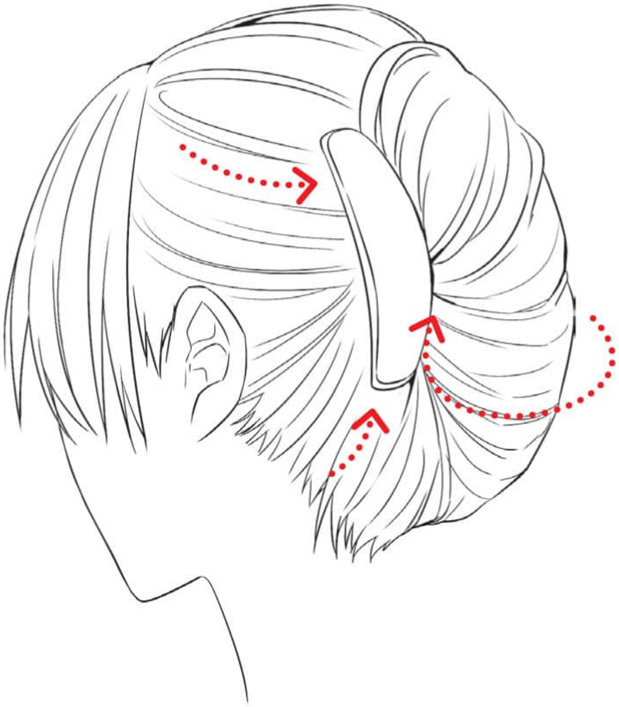
LONG HAIR STICK

Long hair sticks are used to add whimsy to buns and other updos. They’re a visible version of a hairpin.



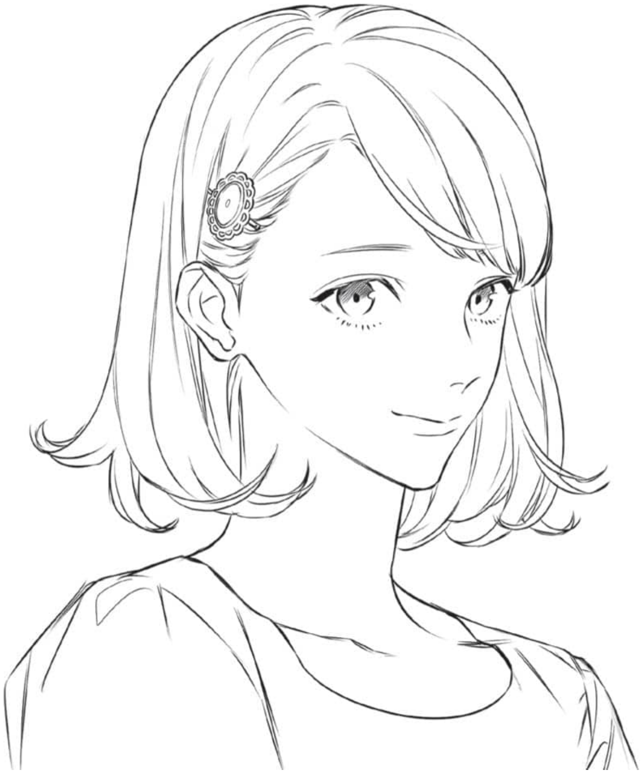
HAIR CLIP

Hair brought from both sides to the back is held in place with a hair clip.



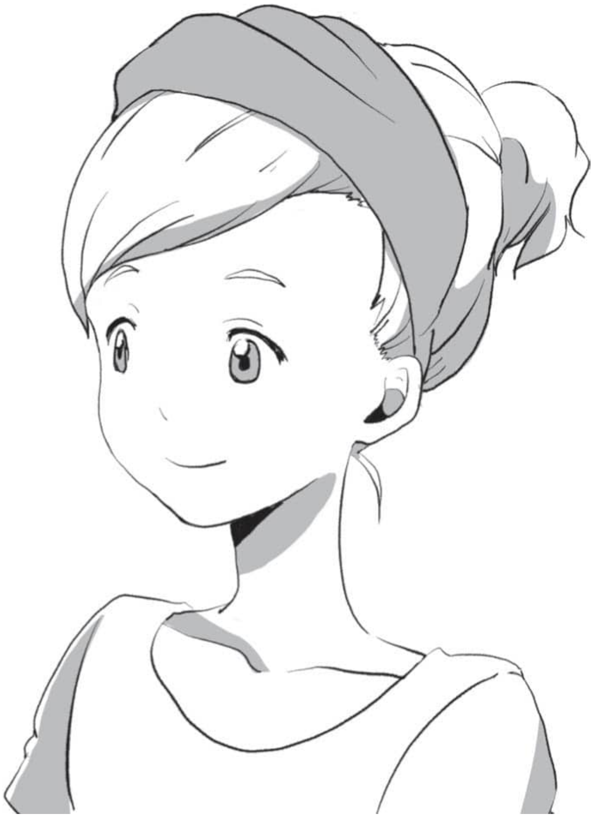
COMB

Decorative combs are used to hold twisted hairstyles in place. The hair all flows toward the comb.



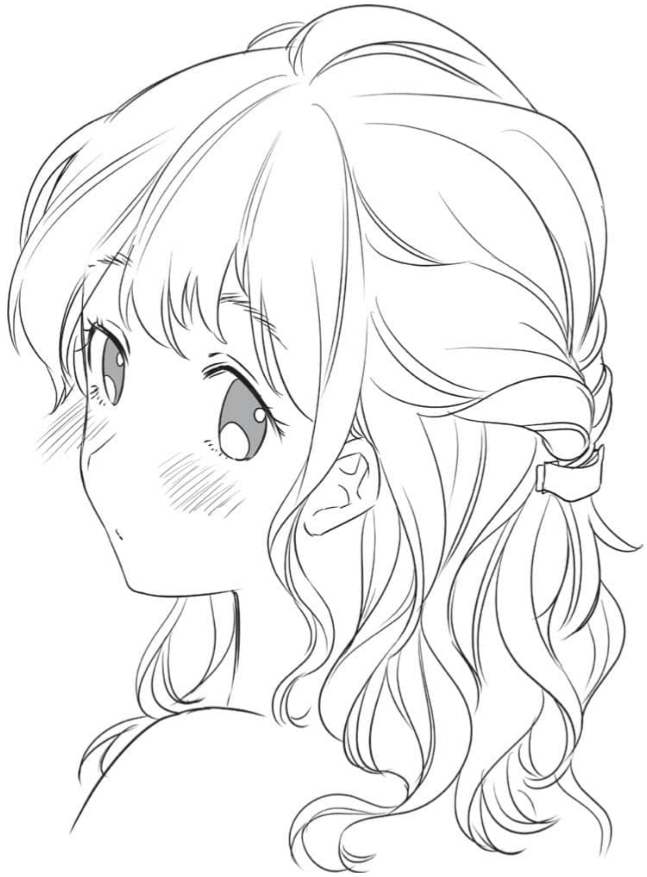
BARRETTE, SIDESWEPT BANGS

Hair can be kept back from the face with a decorative barrette. Here, just one side is held back above the ear and bangs are swept to the opposite side.



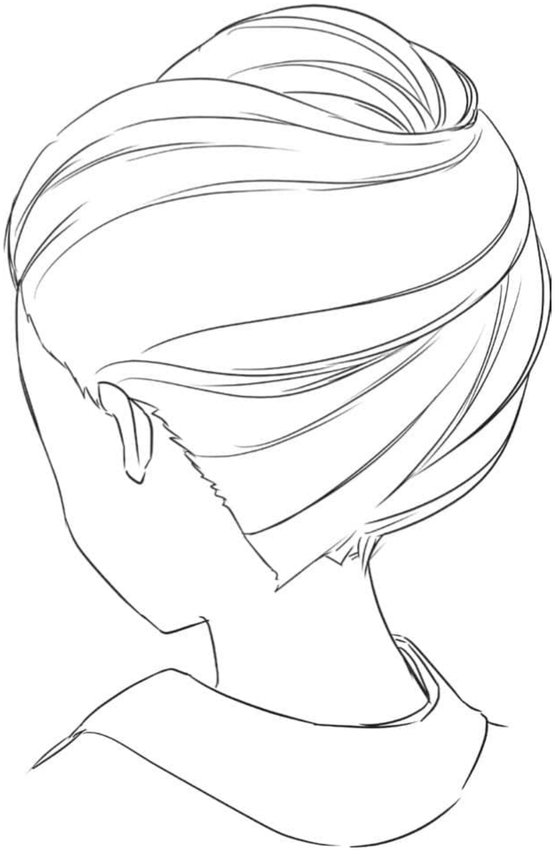
HEADSCARF, HAIR PULLED UP

Headscarves are similar to headbands but have the fuller look of fabric. They wrap the head all the way around and are typically tied in the back, under the hair.



BRAID, HAIR CLIP

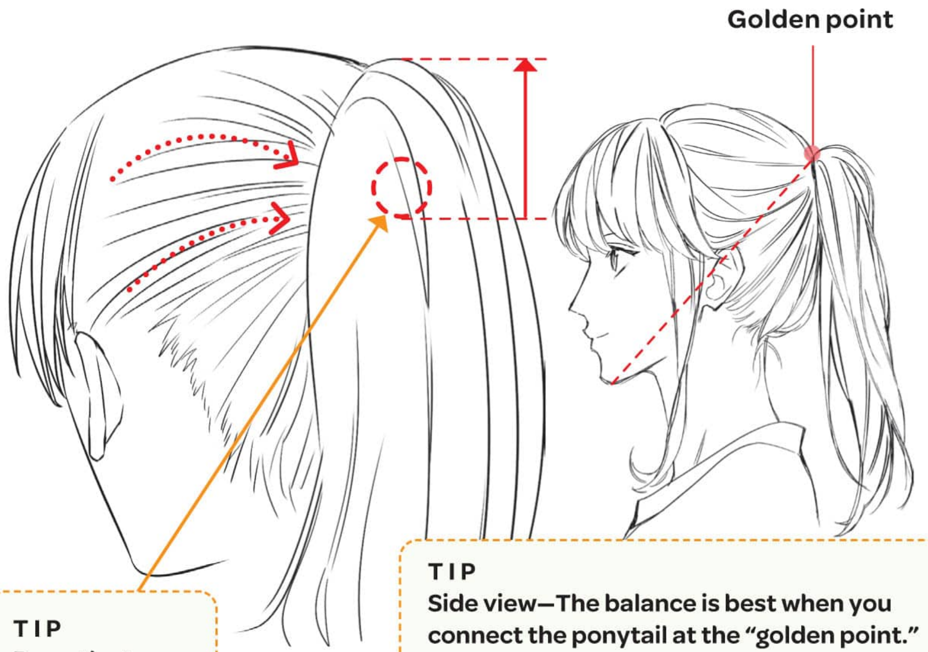
For added style, hair clips can be used to secure the end of a braid in place of a simple hair tie.



FRENCH TWIST, HAIRPINS

The dramatic look of a French twist is achieved with hairpins pushed into the hair and hidden for a seamless style. The key is that the hair flows to a point where the hairpins are used.

Ponytails

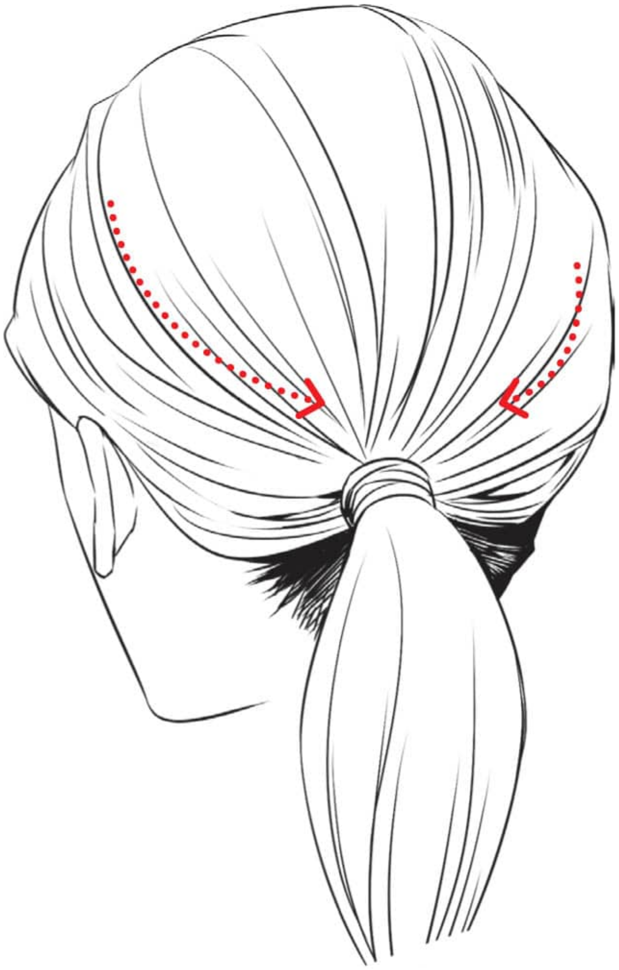


TIP
Draw the top of the hair above the tie to show volume. Here, the circle indicates the bundle of hair. The top of the ponytail is higher.

TIP
Side view—The balance is best when you connect the ponytail at the "golden point." To locate this spot, visualize an extension of the diagonal line that connects the tip of the chin and the top of the ear.

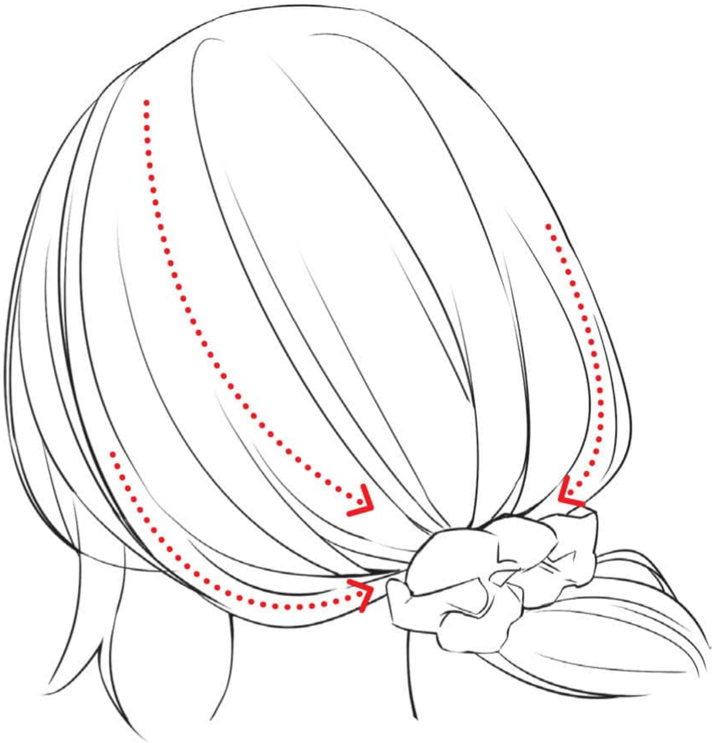
CLASSIC PONYTAIL

A simple, classic ponytail pulls all the hair from the sides, crown, and back of the head up into a large bundle. It is tied with an elastic hair tie.



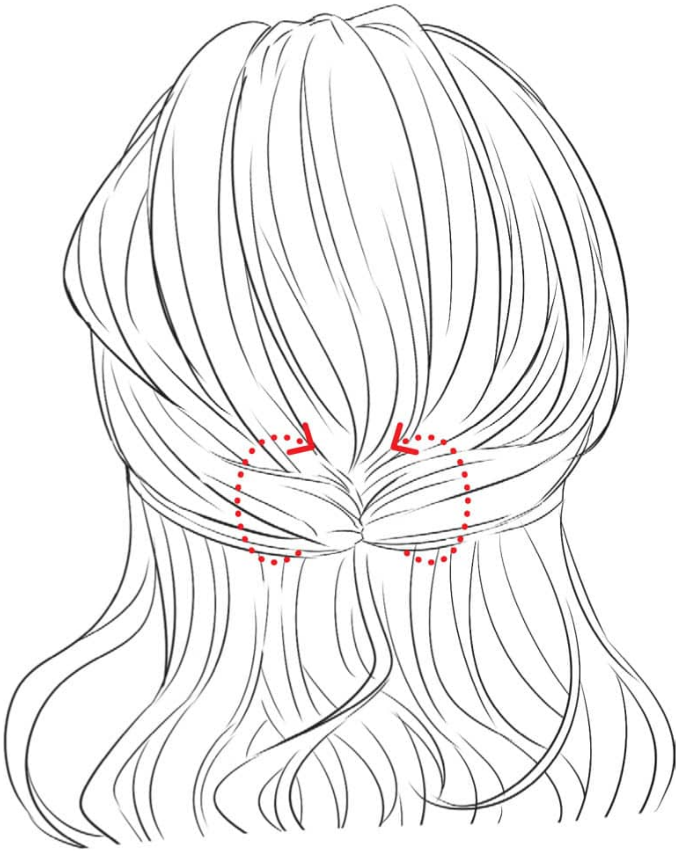
LOW PONYTAIL

For a more relaxed look, the ponytail can sit lower on the back of the head. The hair should flow to the point where it is gathered and can be tied with a decorative elastic or wrapped with hair.



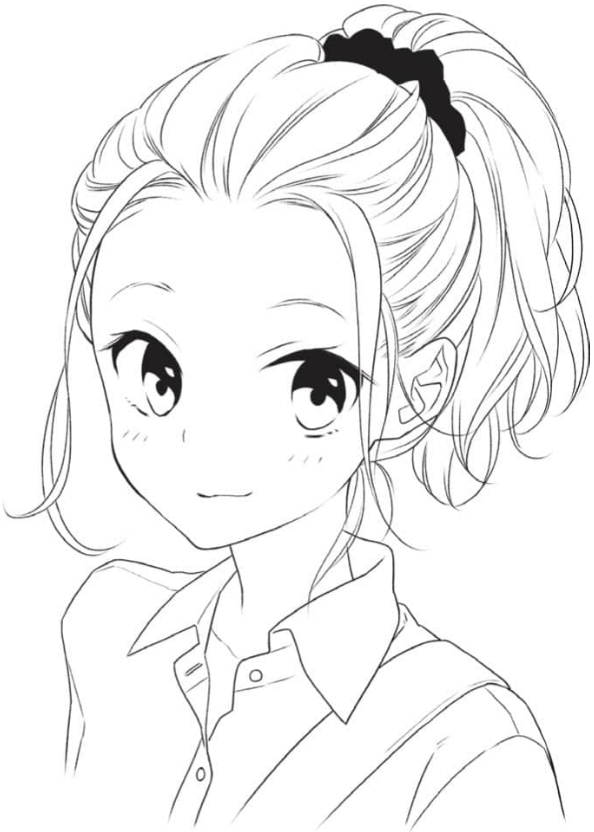
SIDE PONYTAIL

Create a loose ponytail by drawing hair gathered but sagging where it is held with a tie. Here, a scrunchie is used to tie the hair in a very low side ponytail.



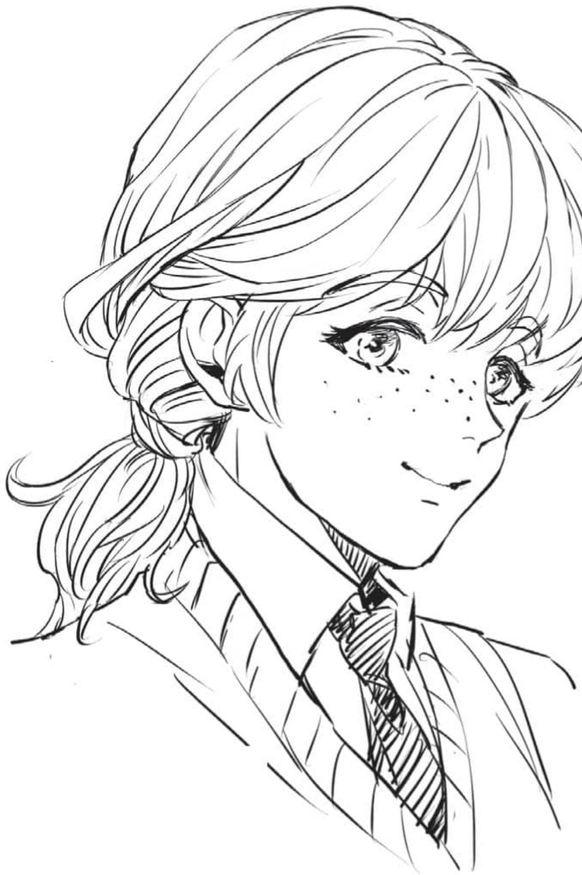
TWISTED HALF PONYTAIL

This look is achieved when half the hair is pulled into a low ponytail and tied with an elastic. Once tied, the ponytail is rotated and pulled through the gathered hair to create twists on either side of the tie.



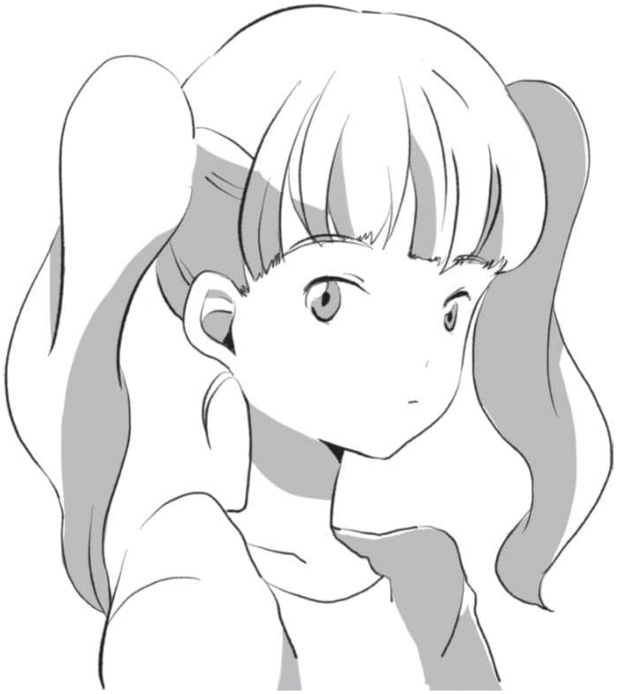
HIGH PONYTAIL, SCRUNCHIE

Scrunchie hair ties can be used on classic ponytails, too. Here, high contrast is used to show this stylish accessory.



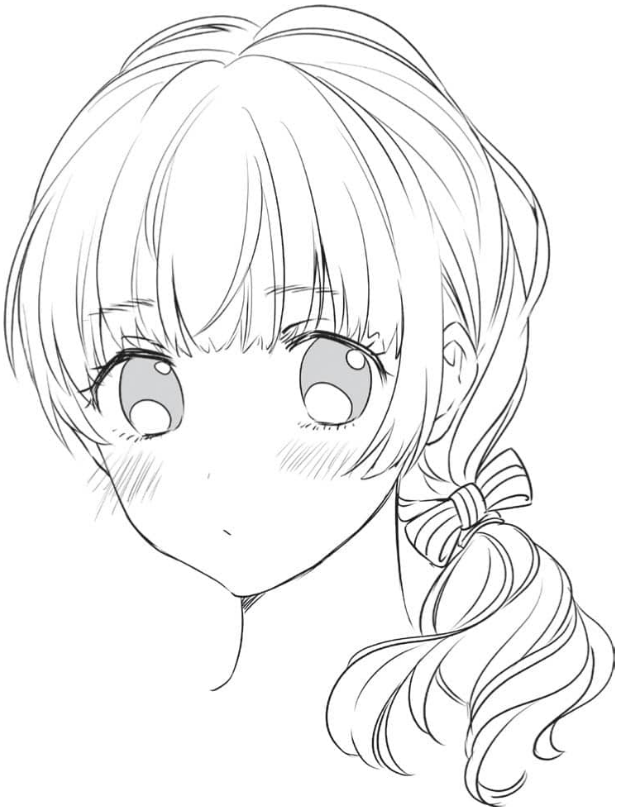
LOW PONYTAIL, LOOSELY TIED

A loose, messy ponytail is a style that can be worn on a variety of characters. The sections of hair being gathered in the ponytail often fly free of the tie.



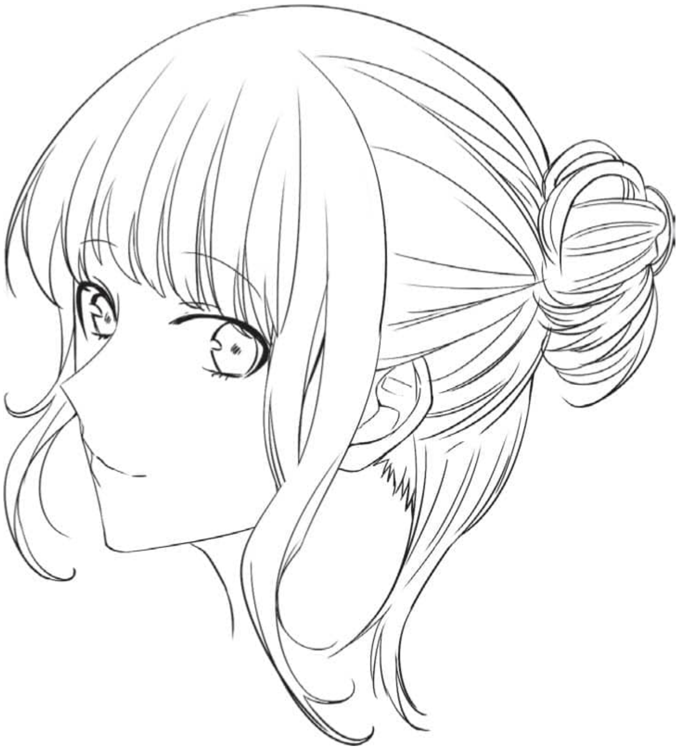
TWIN PONYTAILS

Sometimes called pigtails, twin ponytails are equally sized bundles of hair that are gathered high on either side of the head.



LOW PONYTAIL, DECORATIVE TIE

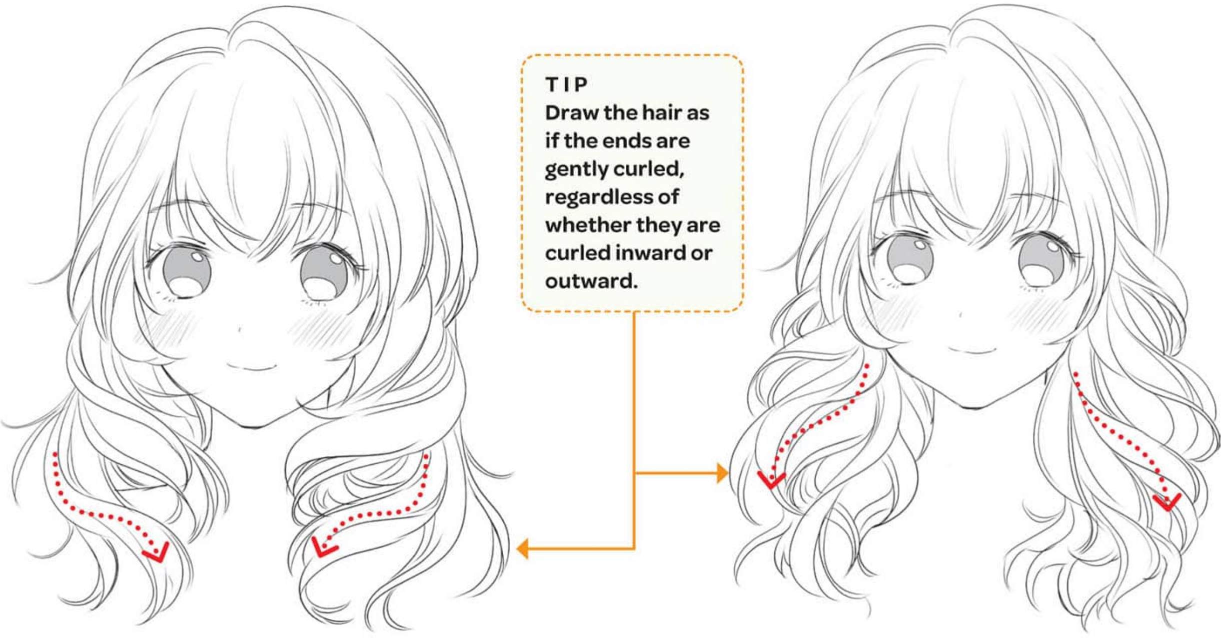
Have fun adding bows, ribbons, or decorative clips to tie ponytails, as seen here.



SHORT HAIR, PONYTAIL

When styling a ponytail on a character with short hair, the ponytail will be small. Some sections of hair may be too short to reach the tie and will hang loosely out of the ponytail.

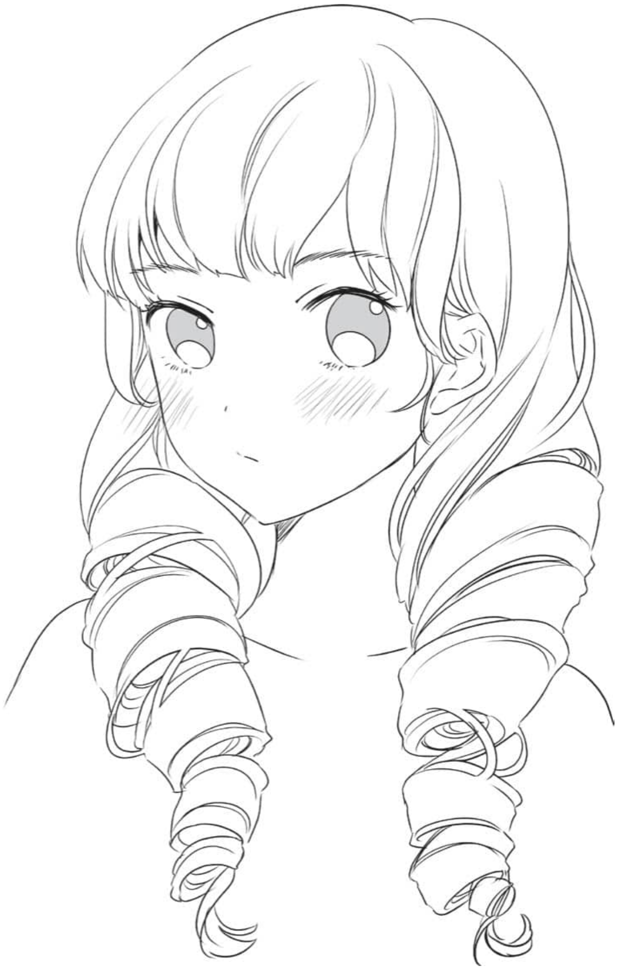
Curly Hairstyles



TIP
Draw the hair as if the ends are gently curled, regardless of whether they are curled inward or outward.

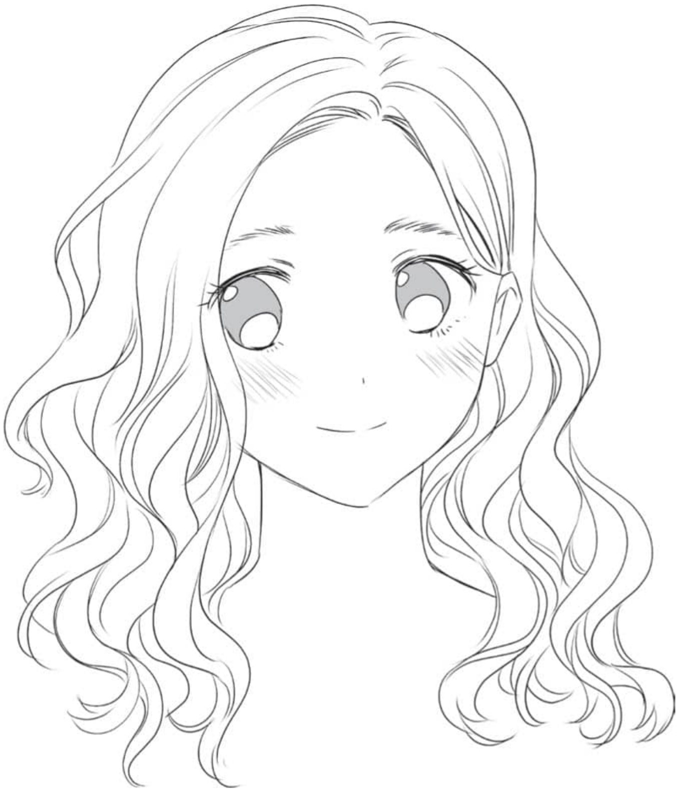
FORWARD CURLS
As the name suggests, forward curls twist forward toward the face. In this example, the curls are loosely separated into sections for an easy look.

REVERSE CURLS
This style of curl twists away from the face. When drawing curly styles, the curled hair should start at the sides of the head near the ears.



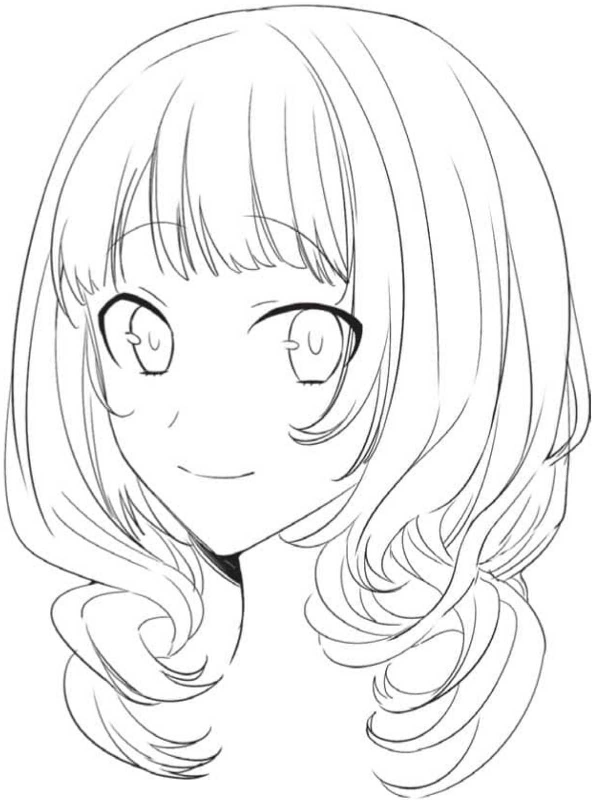
LARGE RINGLET CURLS

Ringlet curls are bundles of tightly coiled hair that stay in clearly defined sections. Here, two large ringlets coil in toward the face.



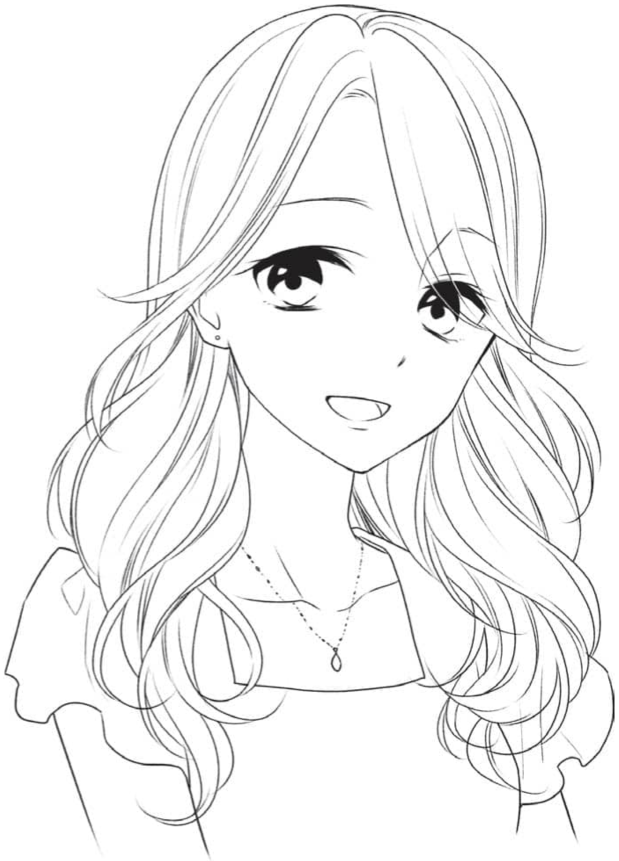
WAVY HAIR

Wavy hair doesn’t have a curl with a full twist, rather it bends back and forth over the entire head.



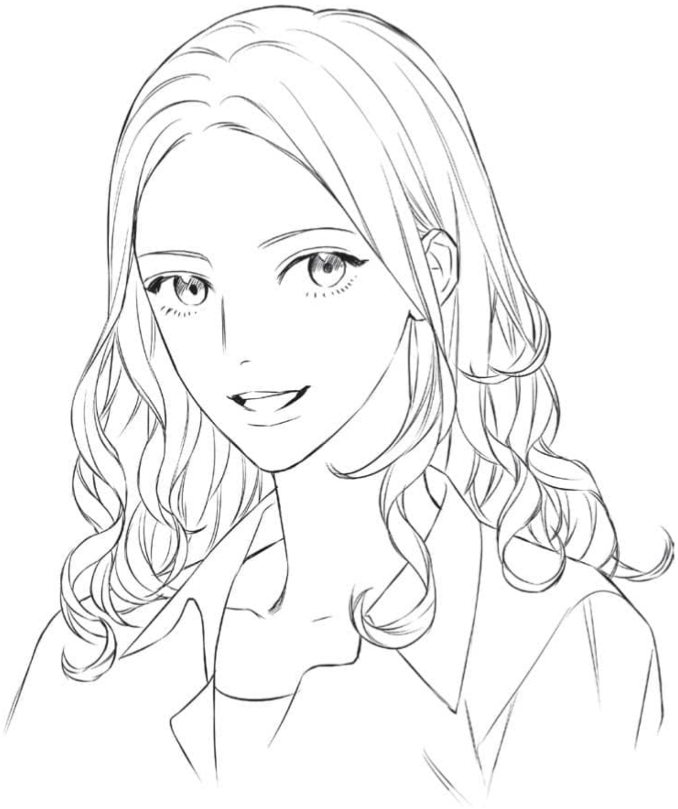
MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, FORWARD CURLS

This medium-length hairstyle has straight sections on the top of the head with forward curls below the chin.



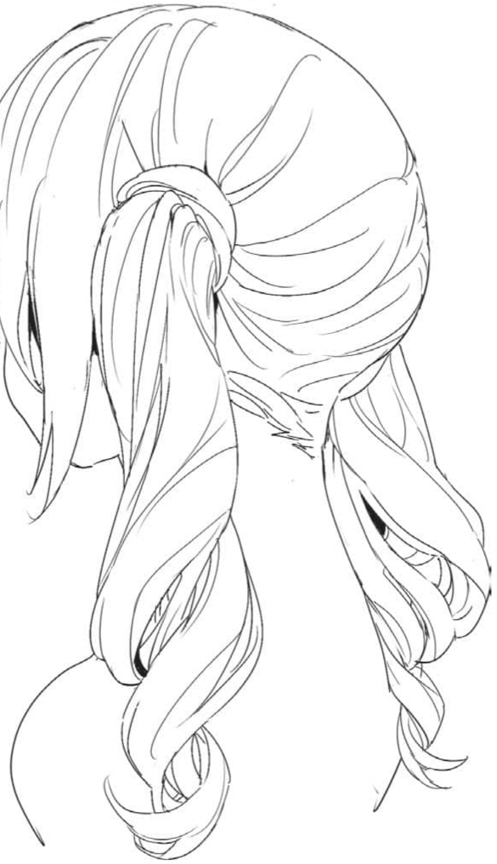
LONG HAIR, REVERSE CURLS

In this look, long hair curls away from the face with “curtain” bangs. These bangs part close to the middle of the forehead and dramatically swoop left and right.



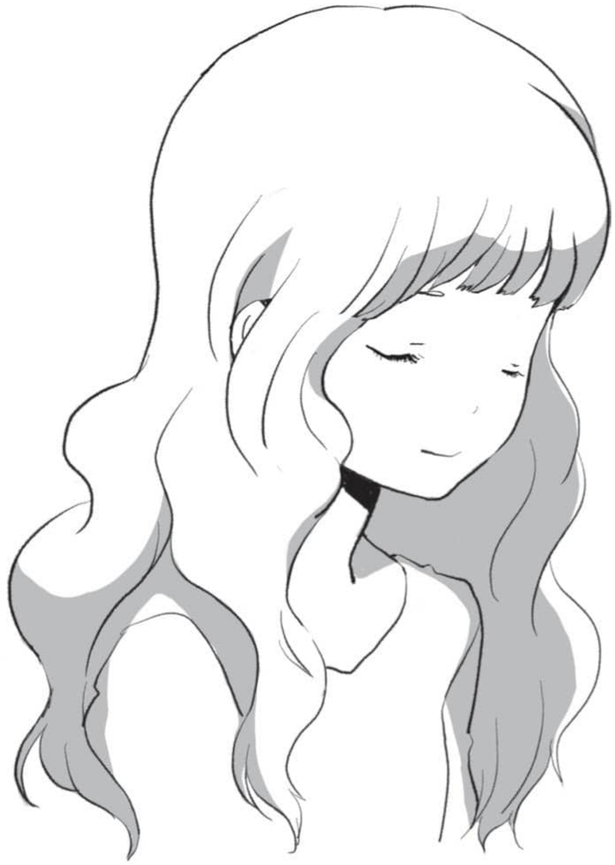
LONG HAIR, RINGLET CURLS

Long defined curls such as these don’t always curl in the same direction. Twist the curls in multiple directions for a realistic look.



RINGLET CURLS, TWIN PONYTAILS

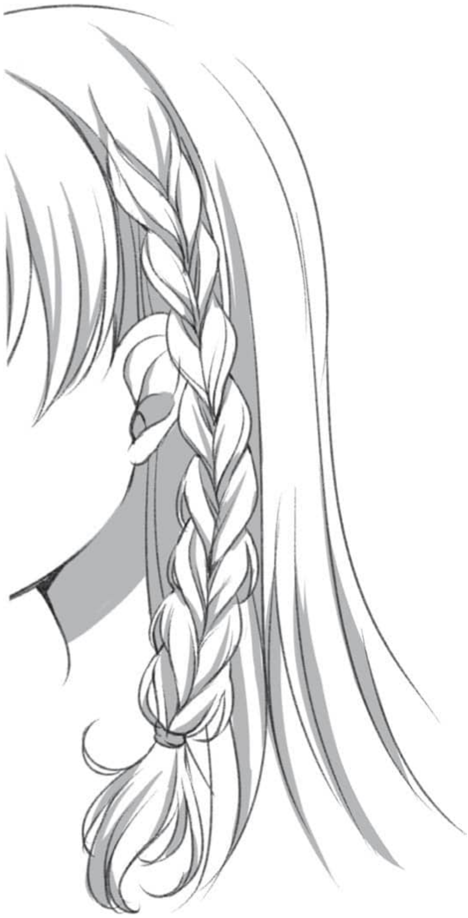
Curly hair can be twisted together into a large single ringlet in twin ponytails. This look is typically associated with young girls.



SOFT WAVY HAIR

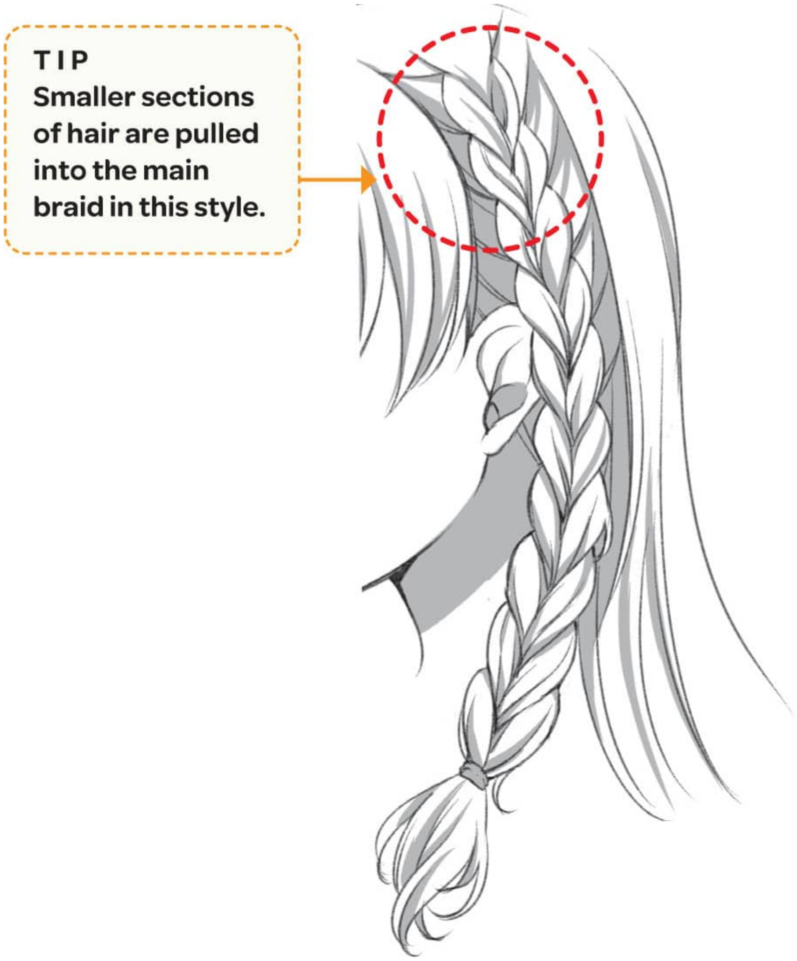
Create the look of a soft, wavy curl by only drawing the outline of the hair. Without the smaller sections of curled hair, the overall effect is looser and more relaxed.

Braided Hairstyles



TRADITIONAL BRAID

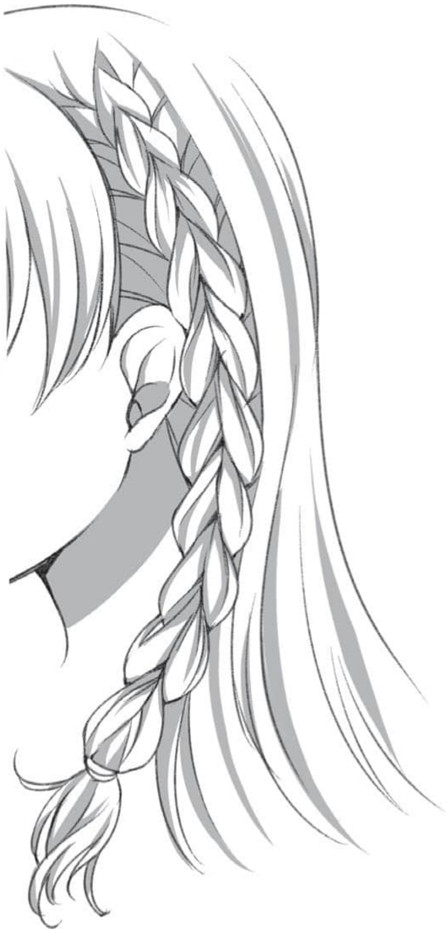
One large section hair is divided into three subsections and twisted in an over-under pattern to create a classic braid. The end is tied and the braid can swing freely on the head.



TIP
Smaller sections of hair are pulled into the main braid in this style.

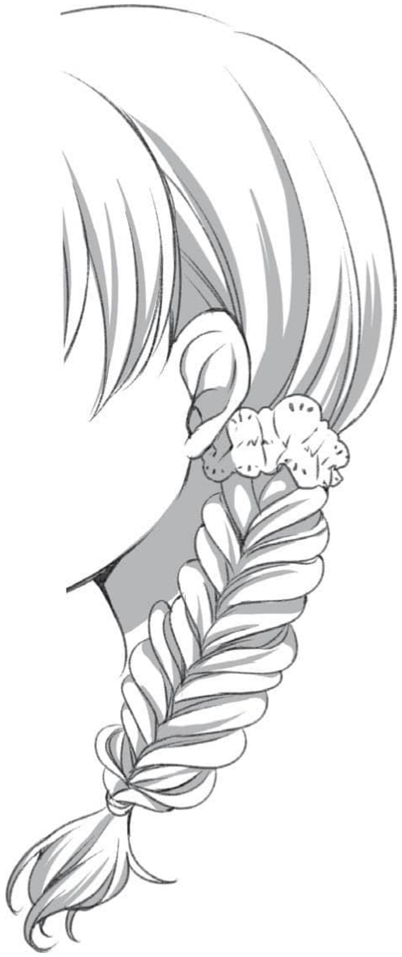
FRENCH BRAID

Three small sections of hair start this braid. After each side is twisted from the outside into the braid, another section of hair is joined from the sides into the main sections. This braid is attached to the head, only the end swings freely.



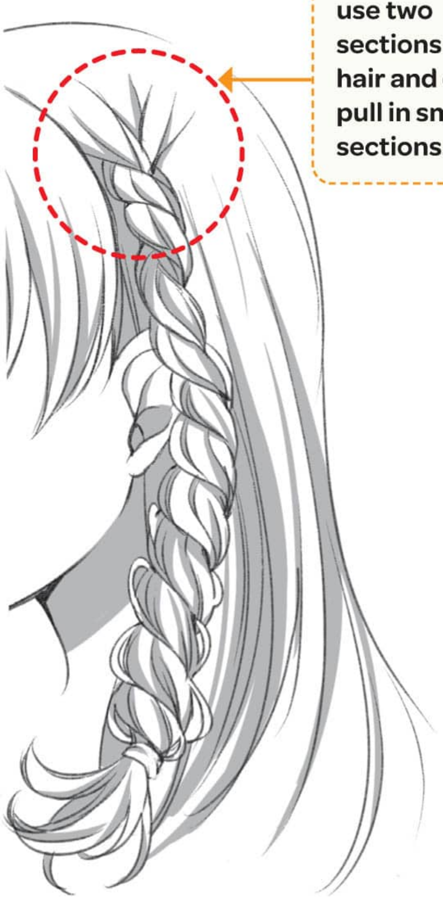
REVERSE BRAID

Sometimes called a horsetail braid, this braid is very similar to a French braid. However, the smaller sections are twisted from inside out, which reverses the direction of the twists.



FISHTAIL BRAID

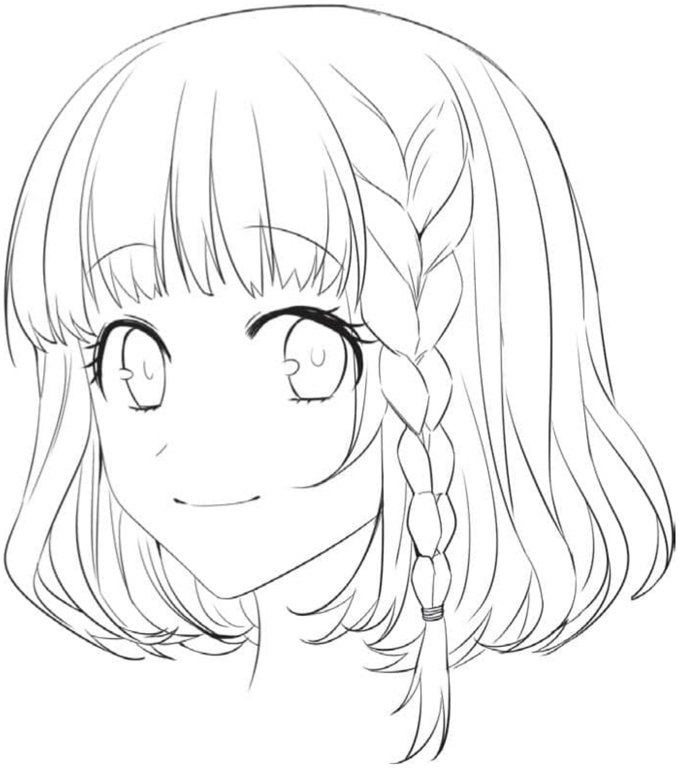
This style braid is shaped like the bones of a fish. The look is much tighter and wider than classic, French, or reversed braids.



TIP
Rope braids use two sections of hair and do not pull in smaller sections.

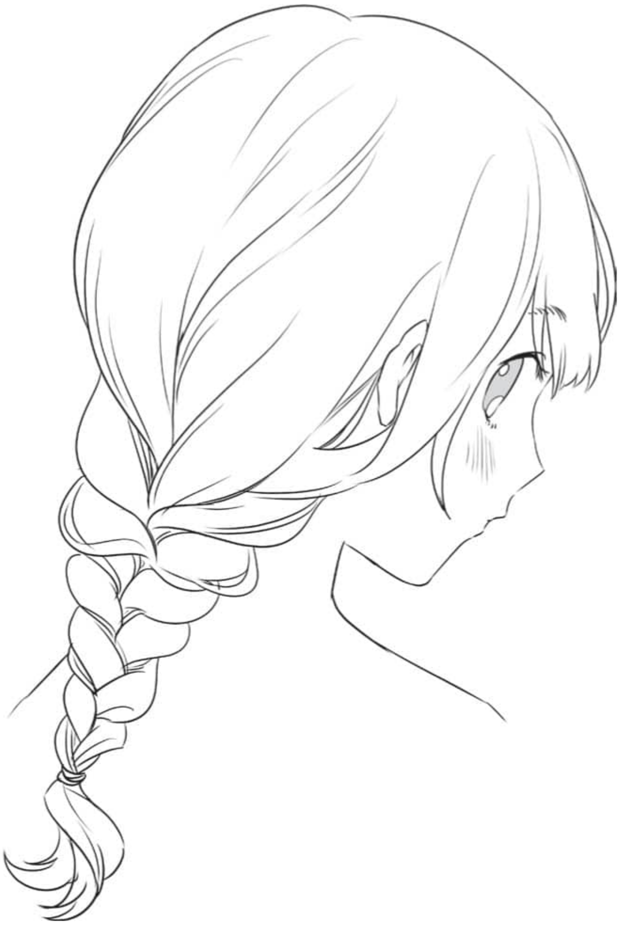
ROPE BRAID

Rope braids are freely swinging braids that are created by twisting two sections of hair and then winding them together.



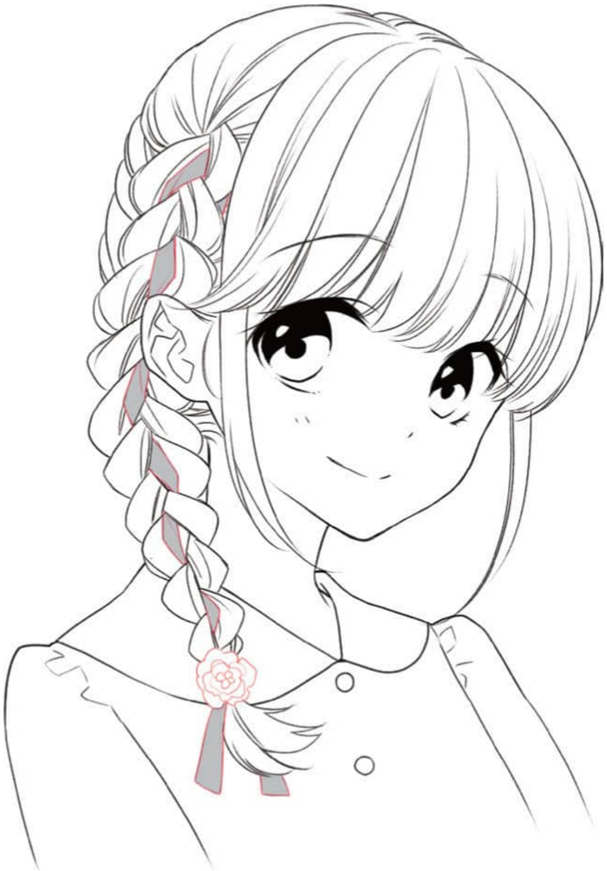
SINGLE SIDE BRAID

This side braid is thicker at the top where it begins. It tapers as it is braided and the hair is thinner.



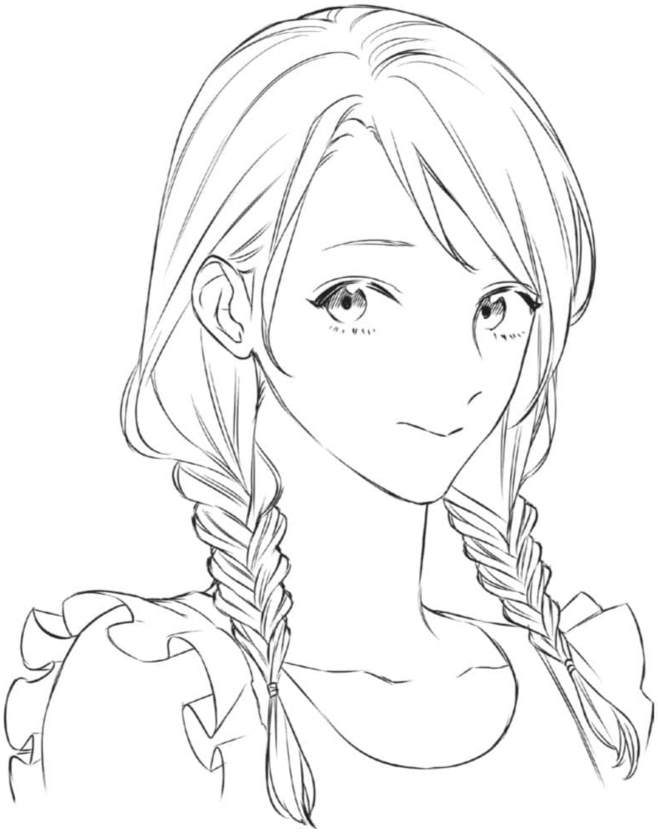
BACK FISHTAIL BRAID

Many of the styles shown here feature braids on the side of the head, but hair can be braided down the back as well. Here, a loose fishtail braid is shown.



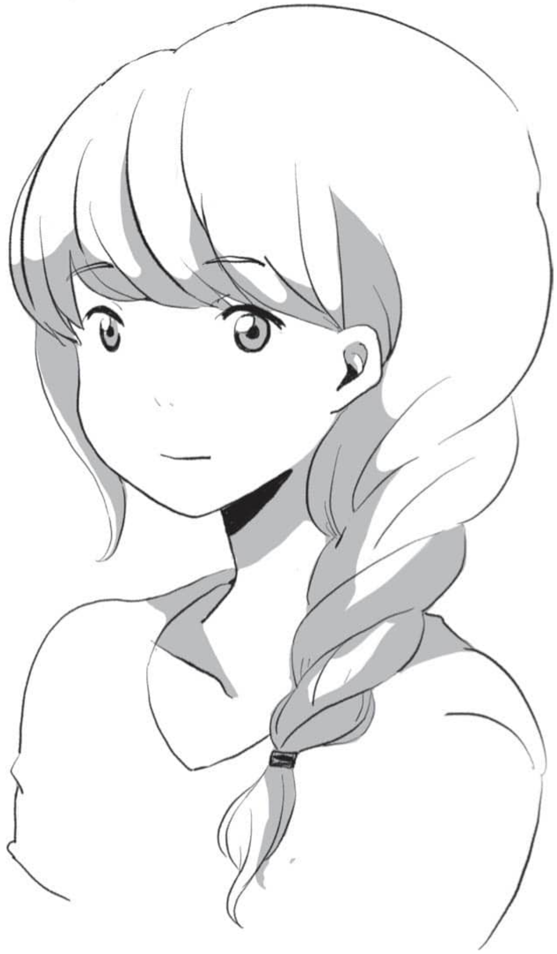
REVERSE BRAID, DECORATIVE TIE

Here, a rose-shaped clip is used to secure the end of a reverse braid featuring a ribbon that is woven into the character's hair. Only small sections of hair near the face and the bangs are left free of the braid.



TWIN FISHTAIL BRAIDS

Twin braids are a unique look for longer hairstyles. The fishtail braids shown here are wider near the head and taper toward the ends.



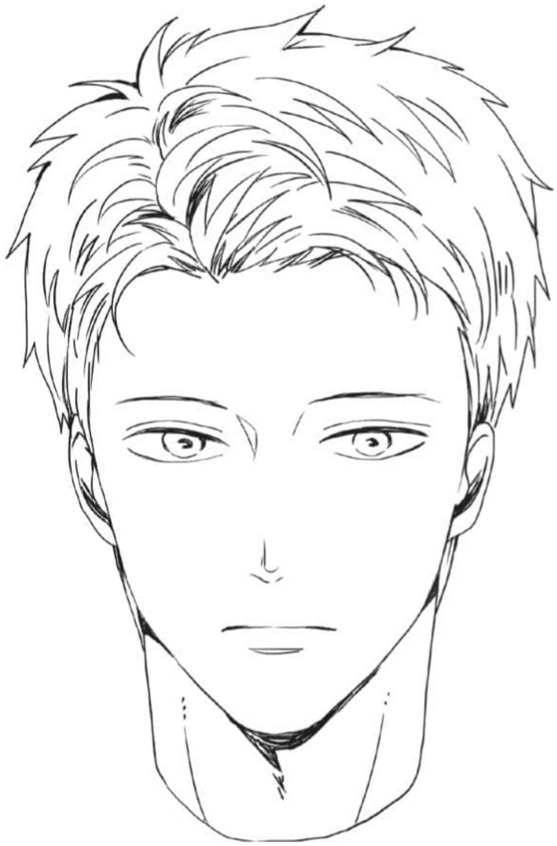
LARGE SIDE ROPE BRAID

Create a look with a lot of volume with this side rope braid. The finished style looks like a large ringlet, but is held by a hair tie.

Traditional Male Hairstyles

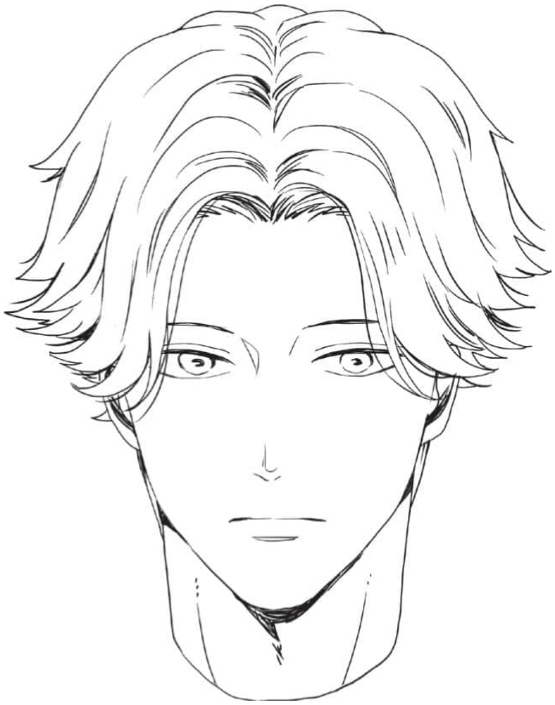
Men's manga hairstyles are typically short, but that doesn't need to limit your creativity! In this section, you'll learn a variety of ways to show your character's personality, no matter the length of their hair.

Short Hairstyles



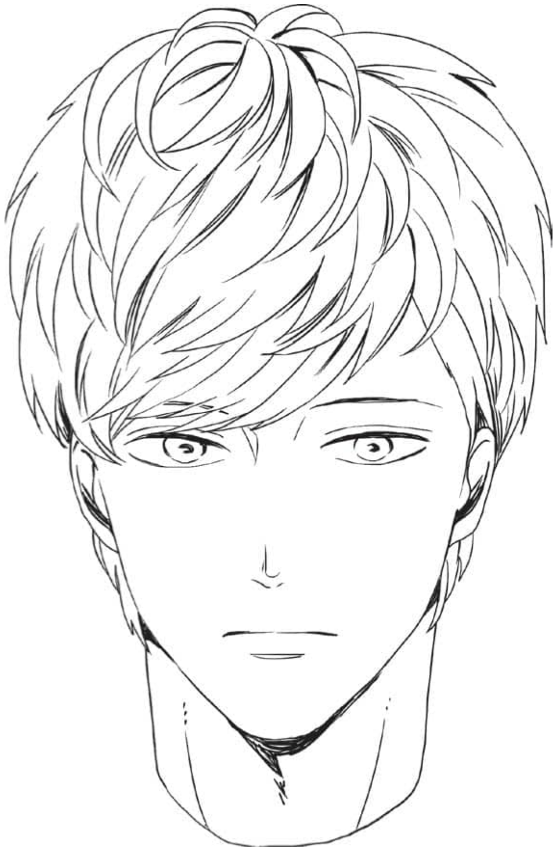
NO BANGS

This short look does not have bangs. The hair along the forehead is slightly spiked and falls away from the face.



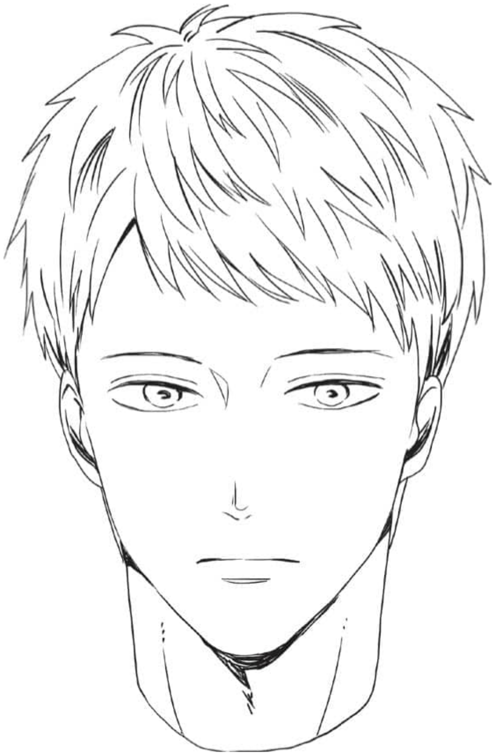
DIVIDED BANGS

The top sections of this style are longer than the back and sides. With the hair parted down the center of the head, this creates divided bangs.



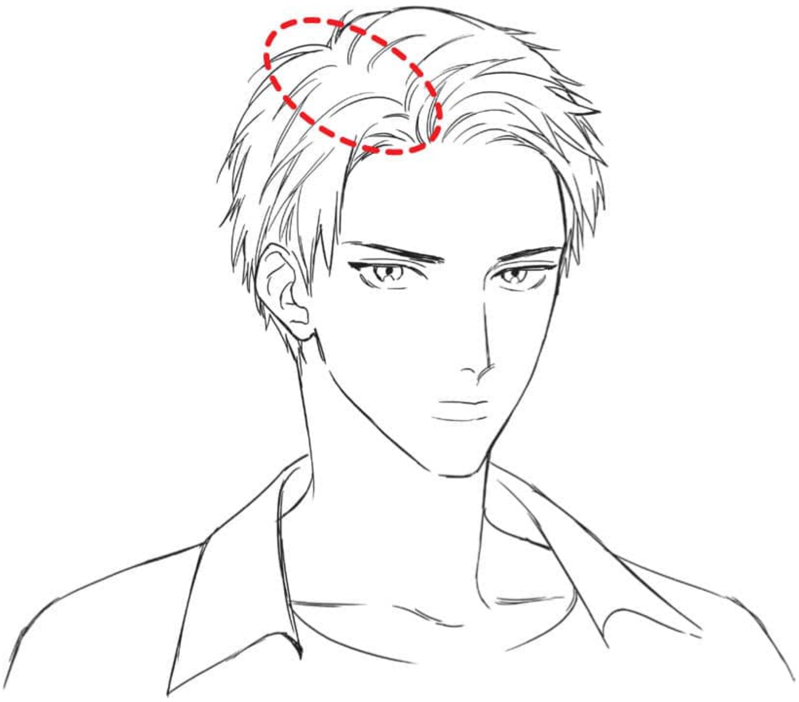
SIDESWEPT BANGS

In this look, the hair has been styled to swoop to one side. The hair looks full with a lot of movement.



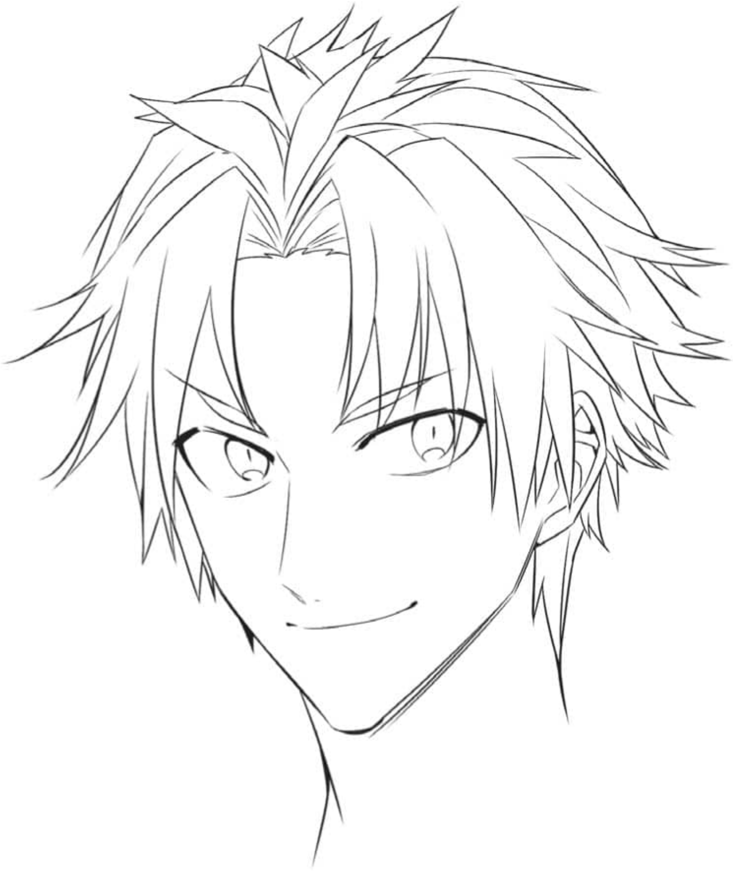
SHORT BANGS

A classic style for men, this short look has bangs that come halfway down the forehead. The hair is generally combed to one side, but it doesn't have the movement of the sideswept bangs.



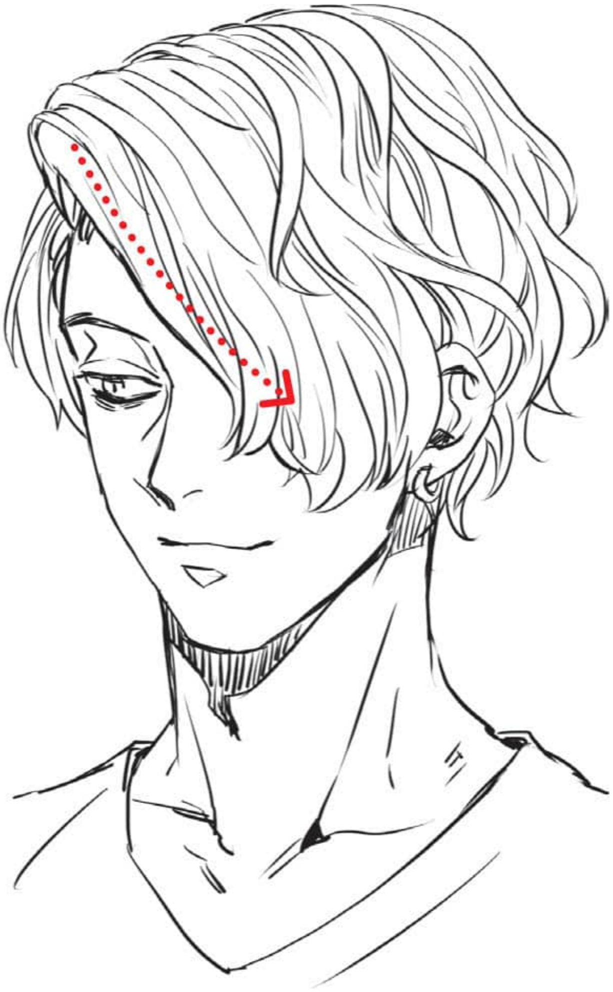
SHORT HAIR, SIDE PART

When drawing a firm part in the hair, remember that the hair needs to be drawn growing out from that part while still following the curve of the head.



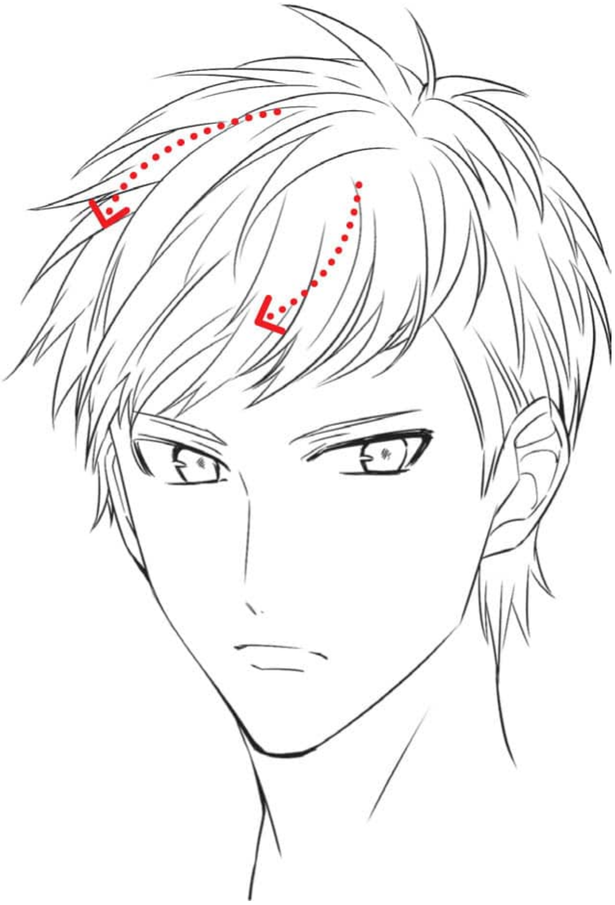
MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, CENTER PART

This unique hairstyle features longer hair with bangs hanging down on the left and right sides of the forehead. There are spiked bangs in the center along the part line as well.



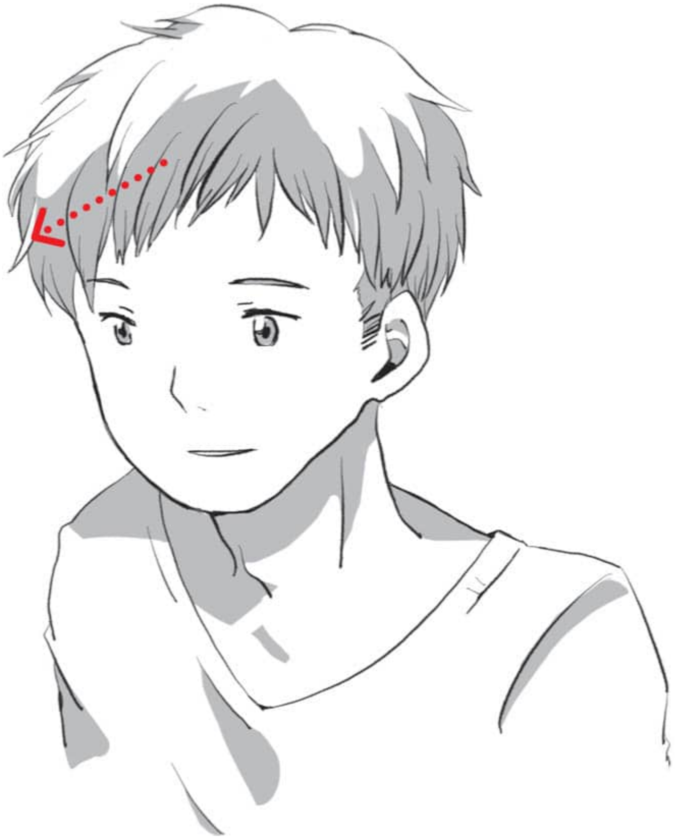
MEDIUM-LENGTH, WAVY HAIR

Bangs hanging diagonally across the face with loosely curled sections of hair creates a trendy look.



SPIKED HAIR, SIDESWEPT BANGS

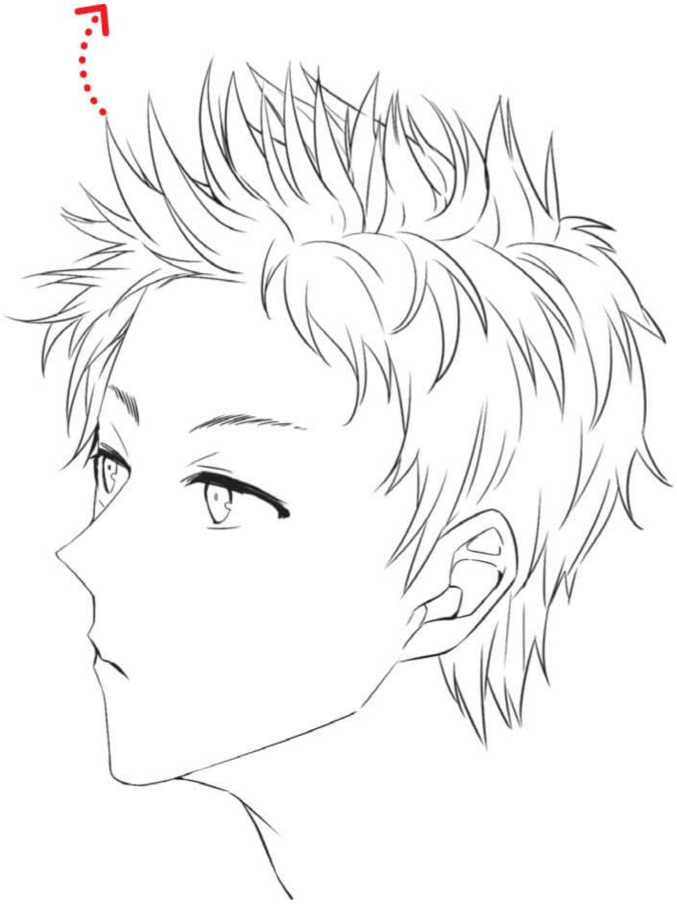
For a wilder style, hair is worked into spiked sections that flow to one side. The crown and sides illustrate the spikes prominently, while the bangs fall into each other.



SOFT SHORT HAIR

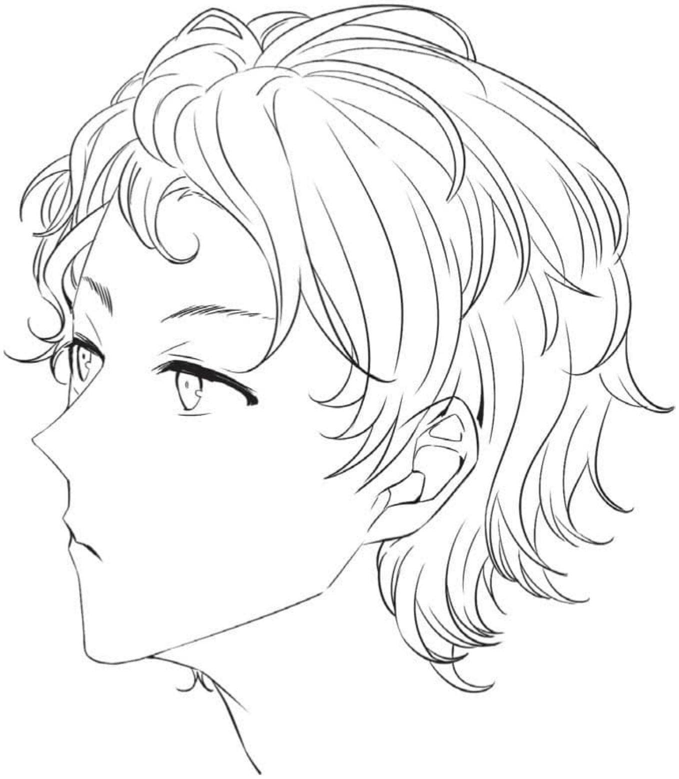
For a more youthful appearance, this hairstyle is drawn with very few defined sections, which gives the look a soft, fluffy feel. The bangs are pushed diagonally and show more of the forehead.

Unique Hairstyles



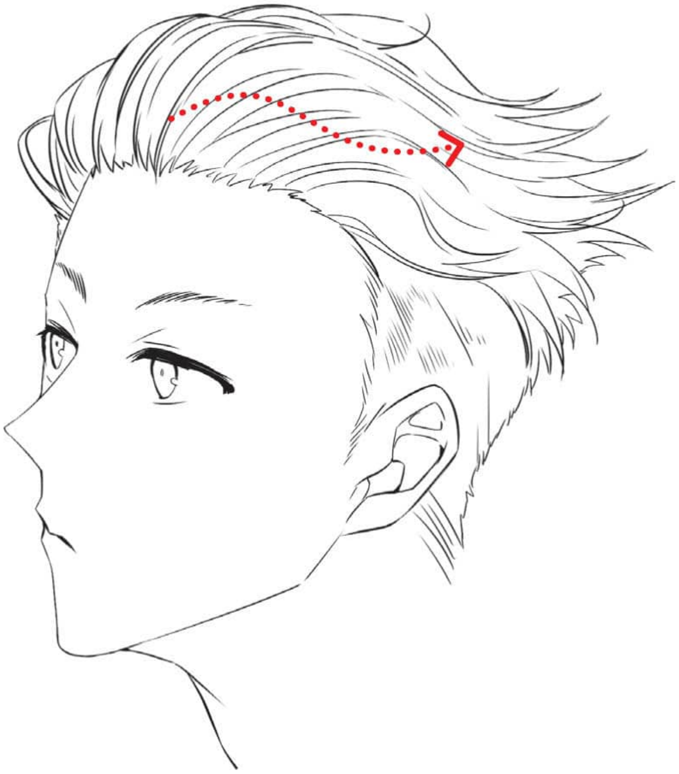
SPIKED WITH HAIR PRODUCTS

Styling products such as wax, balm, or gel, can make short hairstyles defy gravity in creative ways.



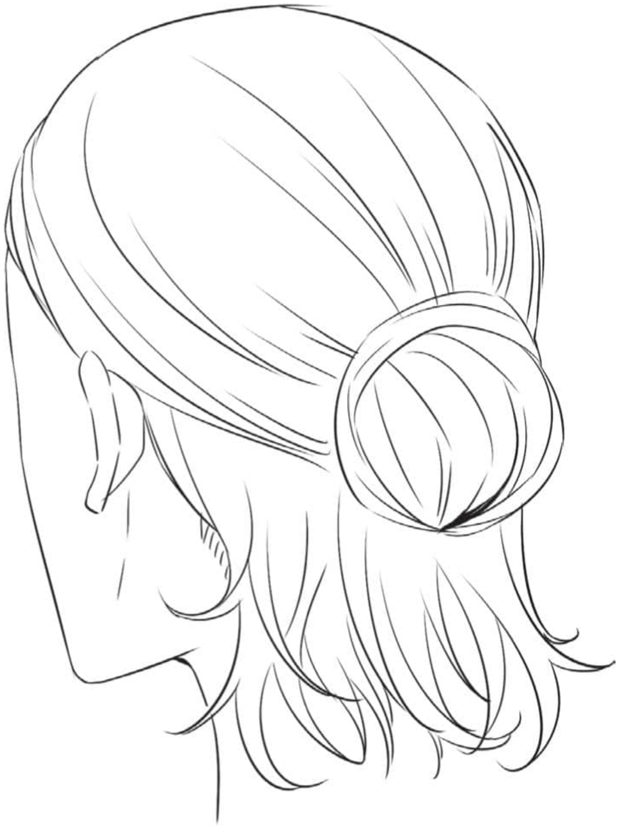
WAVY HAIR, MIXED LENGTHS

In this style, hair is cut in shaggy mixed lengths. It’s longer in some areas and shorter in others. The wavy texture causes the ends to curl erratically.



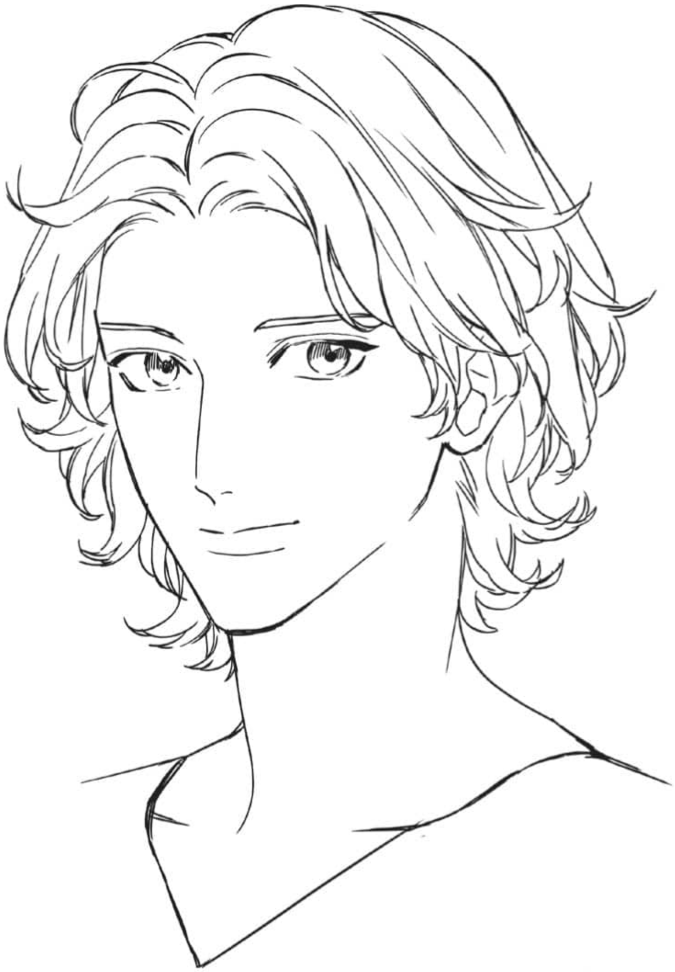
BLOWN BACK WAVES

Whether combed back or styled with a hair dryer, this hairstyle sets waves in a sleek, blown back look. The height at the front of the face adds volume and interest.



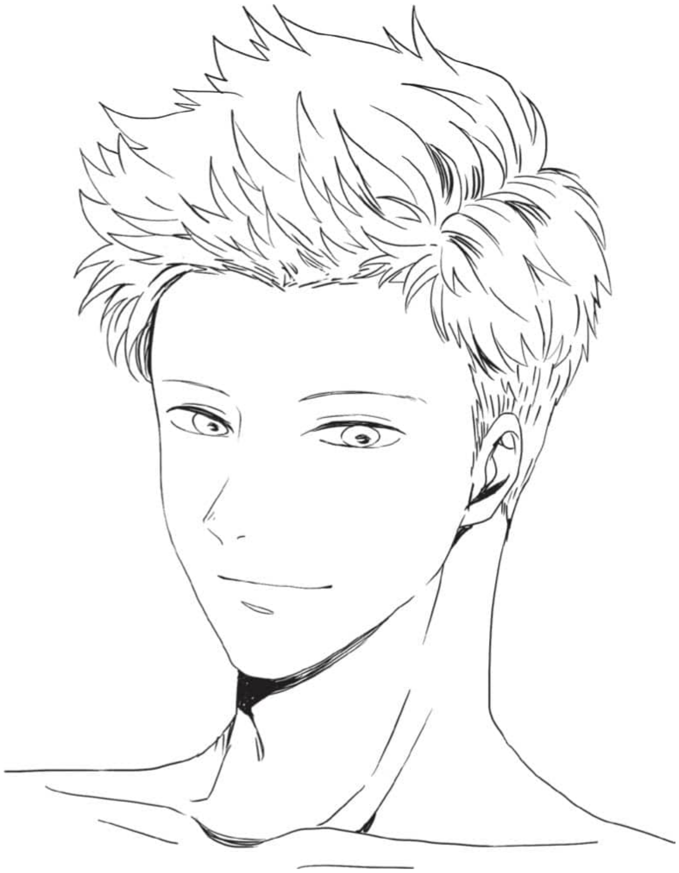
LONG HAIR BUN, BACK VIEW

Long hairstyles for men can be pulled into a ball or “bun” at the back of the head and tied. Here, half of the back section of hair has been left hanging down.



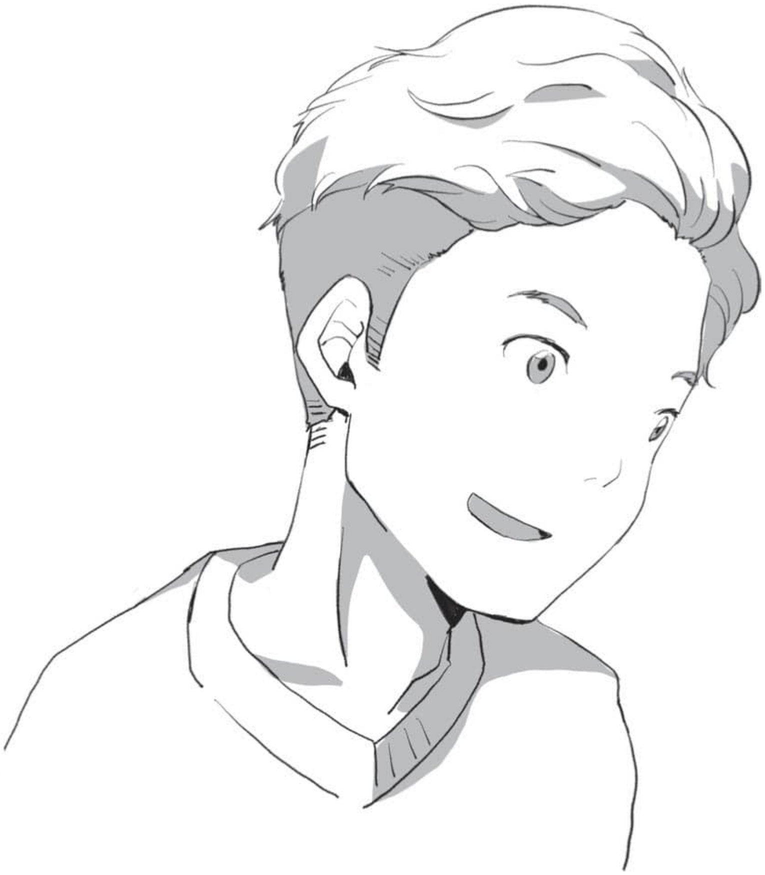
CASUAL MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR

For a refreshing look, style the bangs diagonally to the side to reveal the forehead. Casually curl the ends of the hair to create a relaxed expression.



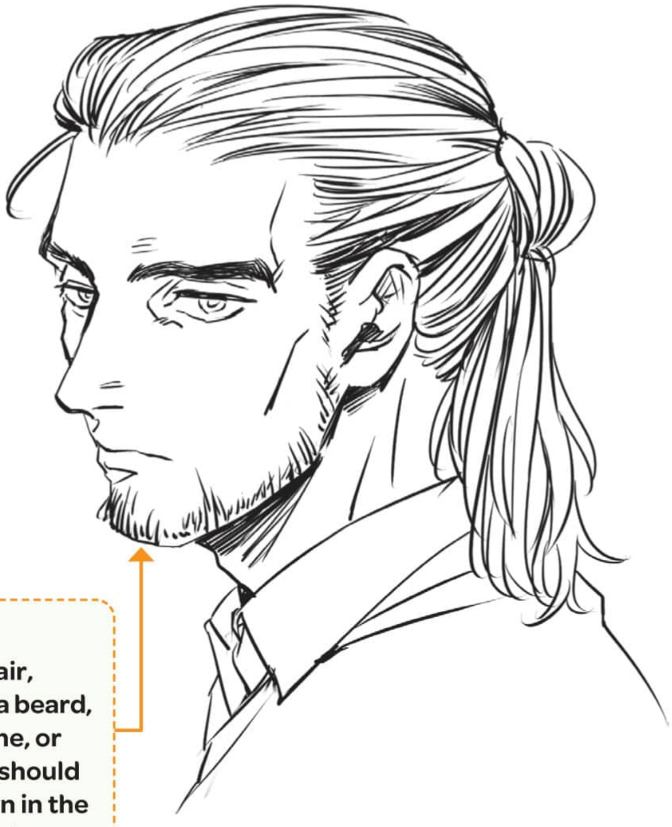
SOFT MOHAWK

Short hair styled with height and volume can give the look of a soft mohawk. Stronger mohawk looks can be drawn with even more height and sharply defined sides.



SHORT SIDES, LONGER TOP AND CROWN

This youthful style shows the sides and back of the head shaved very short with the top left long. The longer top is styled with the hair flowing back away from the face.



TIP
Facial hair, such as a beard, mustache, or goatee, should be drawn in the same style as the hair on the head.

LONG HAIR BUN, FRONT VIEW

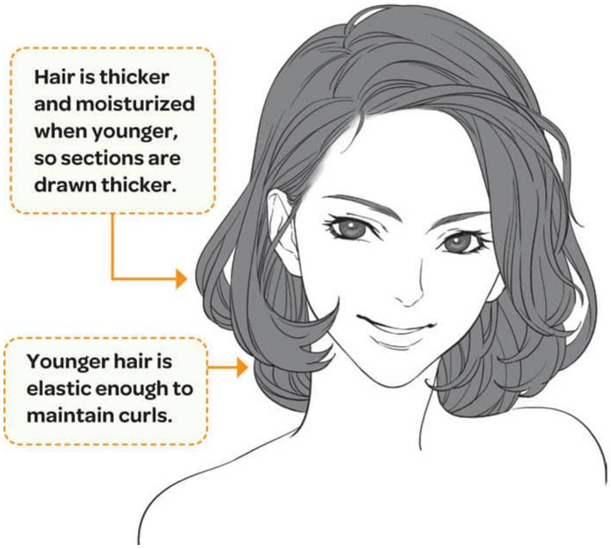
Remember, when drawing long hairstyles that are pulled into a bun or ponytail, the lines of hair should flow to the area where the hair is being gathered.

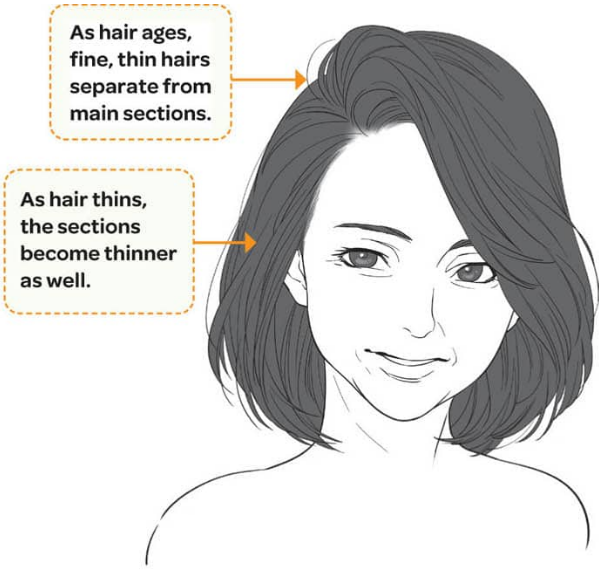
Adding Age to Hair

As a person ages, their hair ages as well. So, when drawing an older person, it is important to express that age in your illustration.

Women

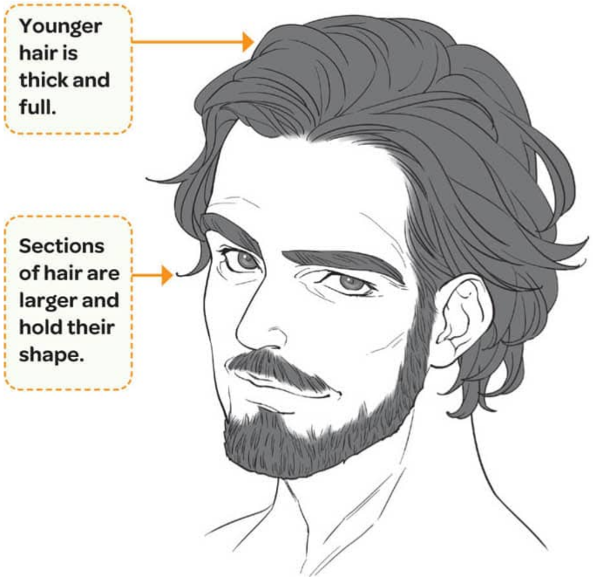
As hair ages, it loses elasticity, making it difficult to maintain style and volume. Hair also tends to become drier and thinner with age. Keep these tendencies in mind when expressing a character's age.

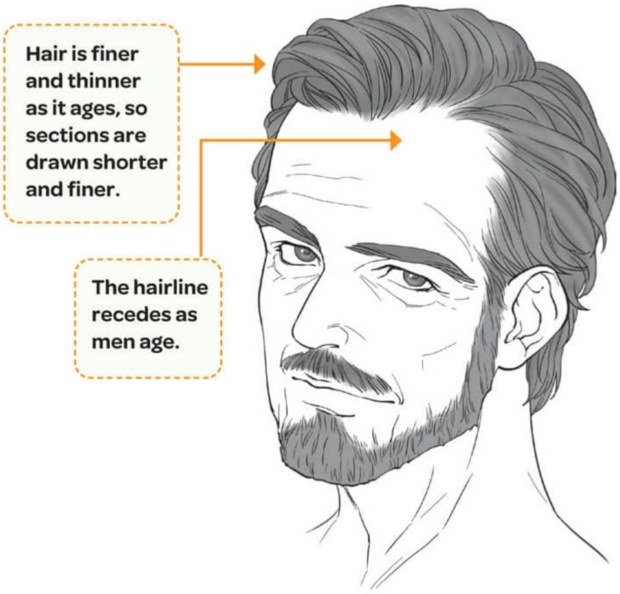

Hair is thicker and moisturized when younger, so sections are drawn thicker.
Younger hair is elastic enough to maintain curls.


As hair ages, fine, thin hairs separate from main sections.
As hair thins, the sections become thinner as well.

Men

As men’s hair ages, the overall volume decreases as the hair gets thinner and softer. In addition, many men experience bald spots at the crown and receding along the hairline.


Younger hair is thick and full.
Sections of hair are larger and hold their shape.


Hair is finer and thinner as it ages, so sections are drawn shorter and finer.
The hairline recedes as men age.

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CHAPTER

02

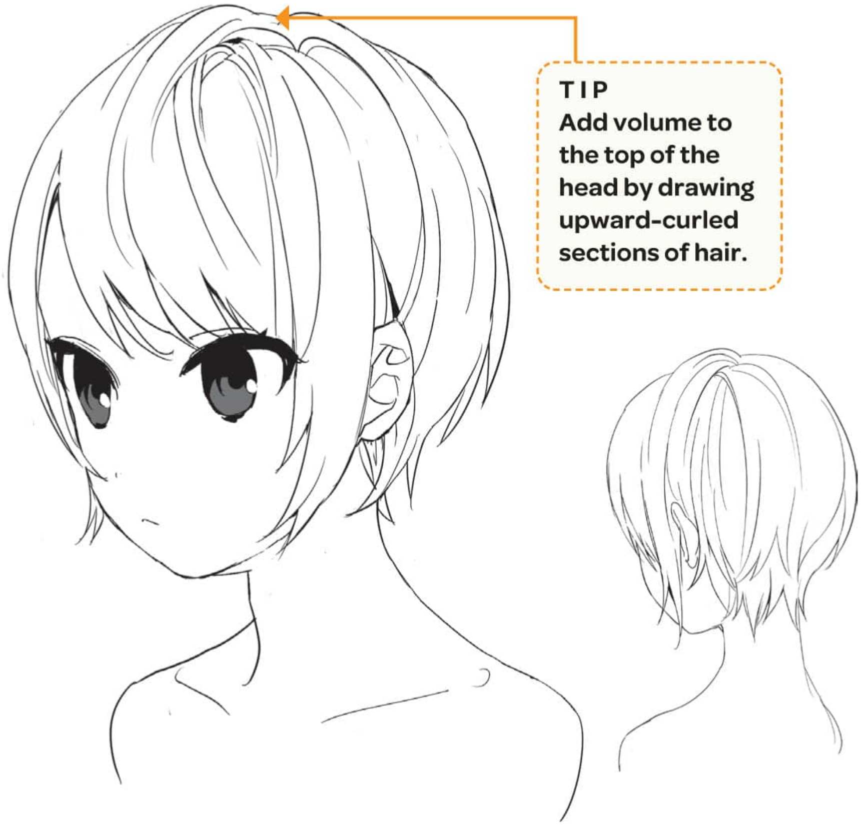
Popular Hairstyles

Female Hairstyles

There are an endless number of ways to cut hair and create different hairstyles. Some styles become trendy and popular. Here, we explore those fashionable styles by length.

Short Hair

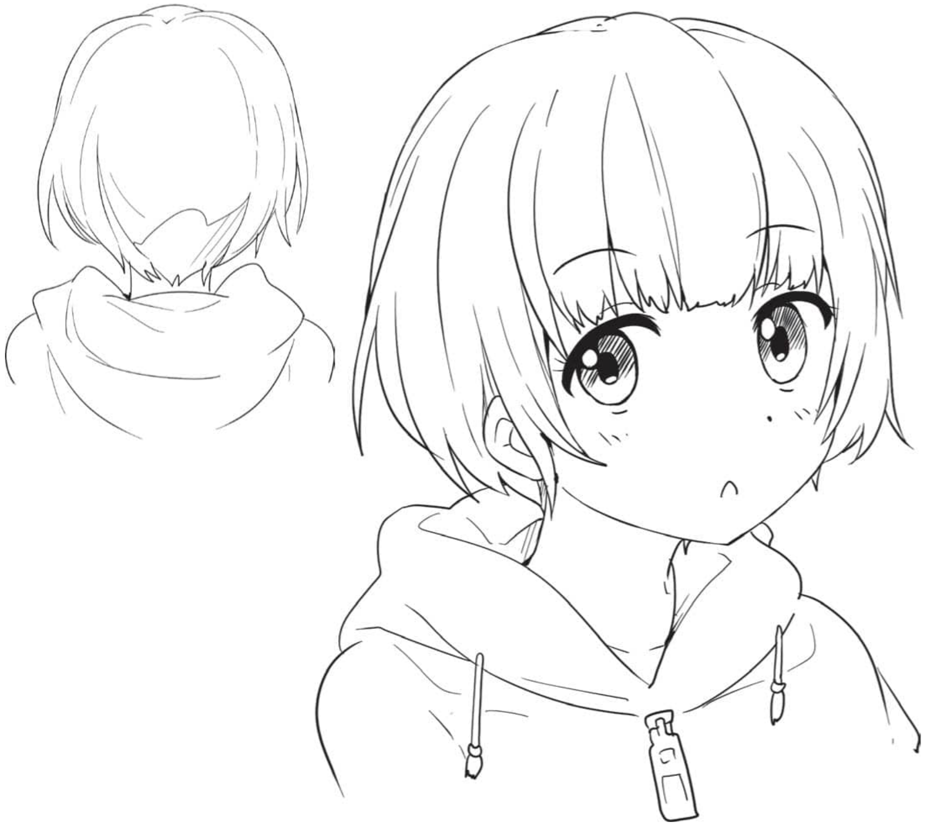
For short hair, the easiest way to change the look is to change the shape of the bangs, the length of the sides, or the height of the back.



TIP
Add volume to the top of the head by drawing upward-curled sections of hair.

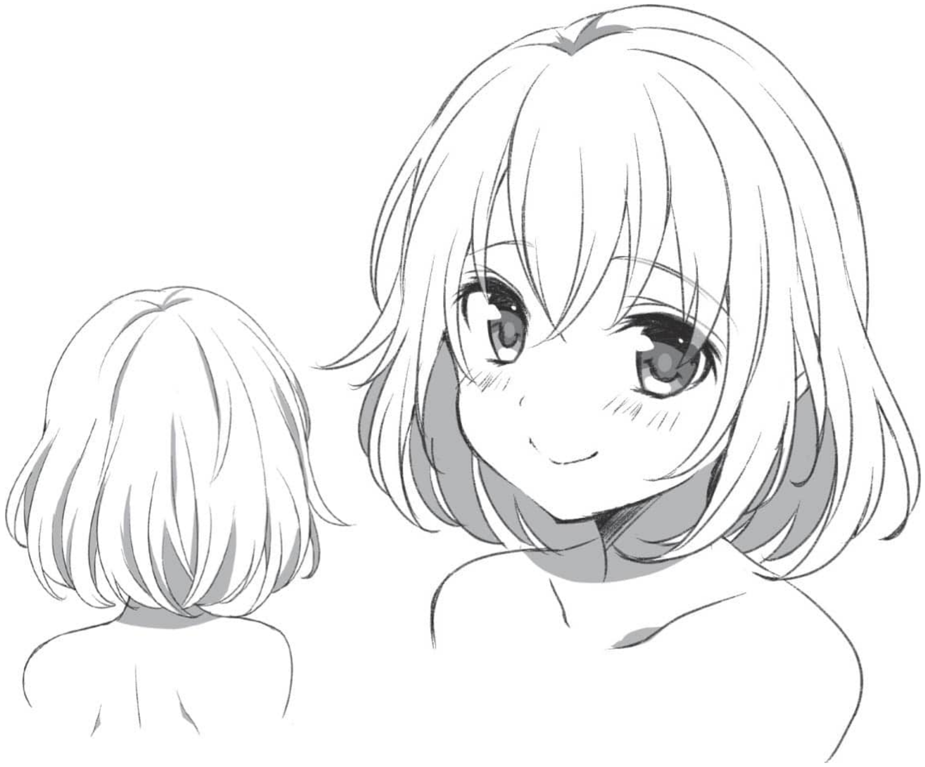
SHORT HAIR, SIDESWEPT BANGS

Drawing sections of hair behind the ear gives volume to the back and top of this hairstyle.



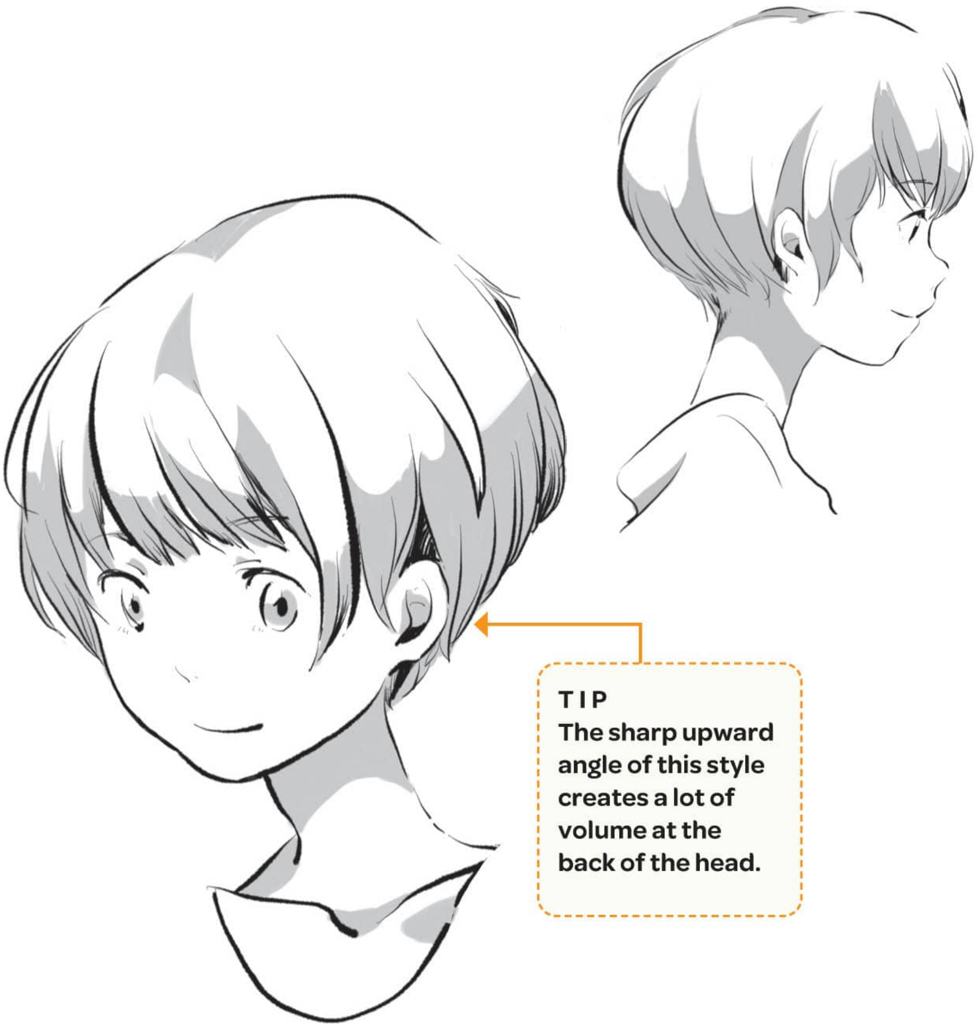
SHORT HAIR, TRIMMED BANGS

This style looks bouncy with the slight bends to the ends of sections around the face.



SHORT HAIR, PIECED BANGS

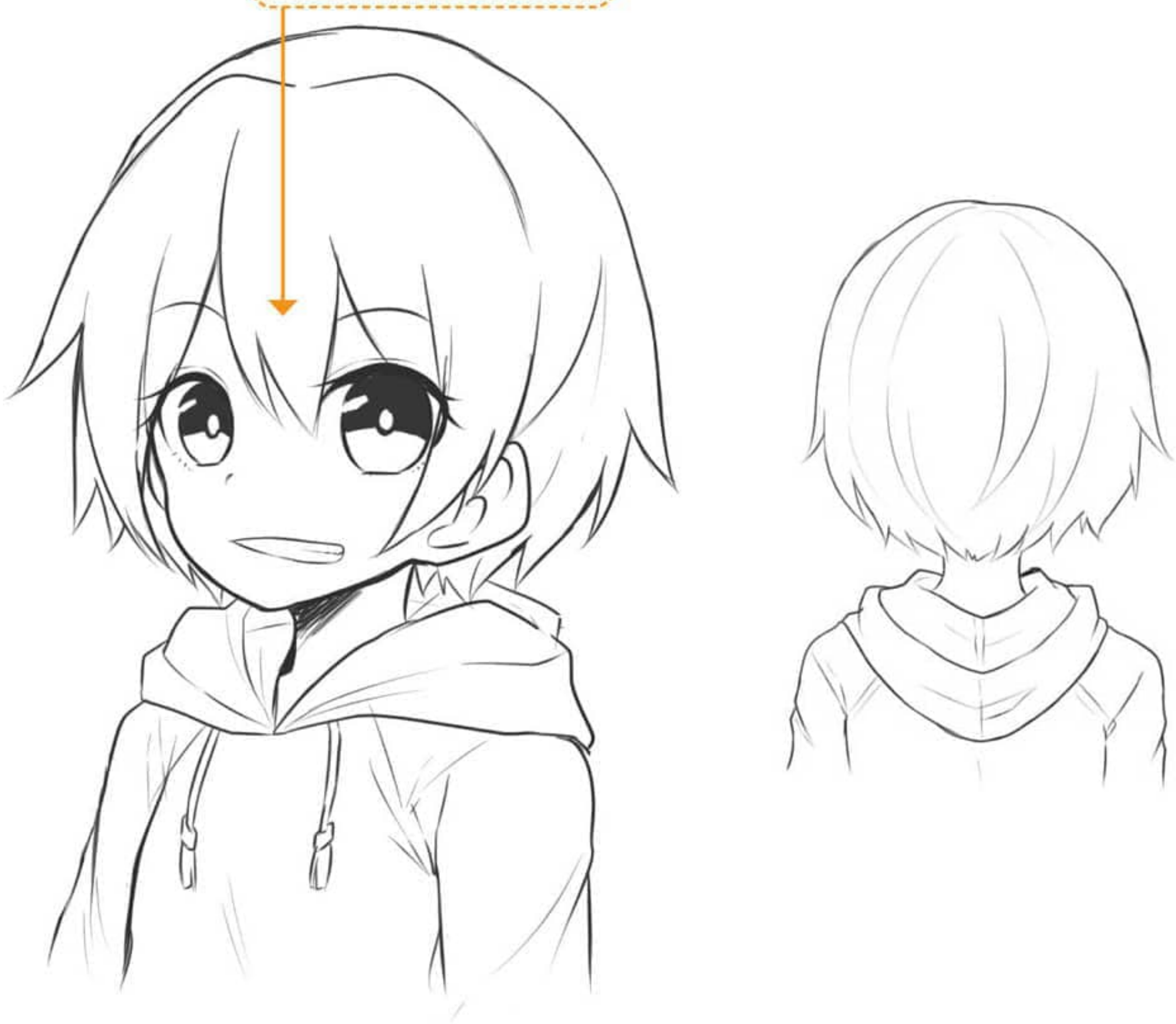
The ends of this style are curled under and shaded to give a light, soft quality to the hair.



TIP
The sharp upward angle of this style creates a lot of volume at the back of the head.

SHORT HAIR, TIGHT BACK

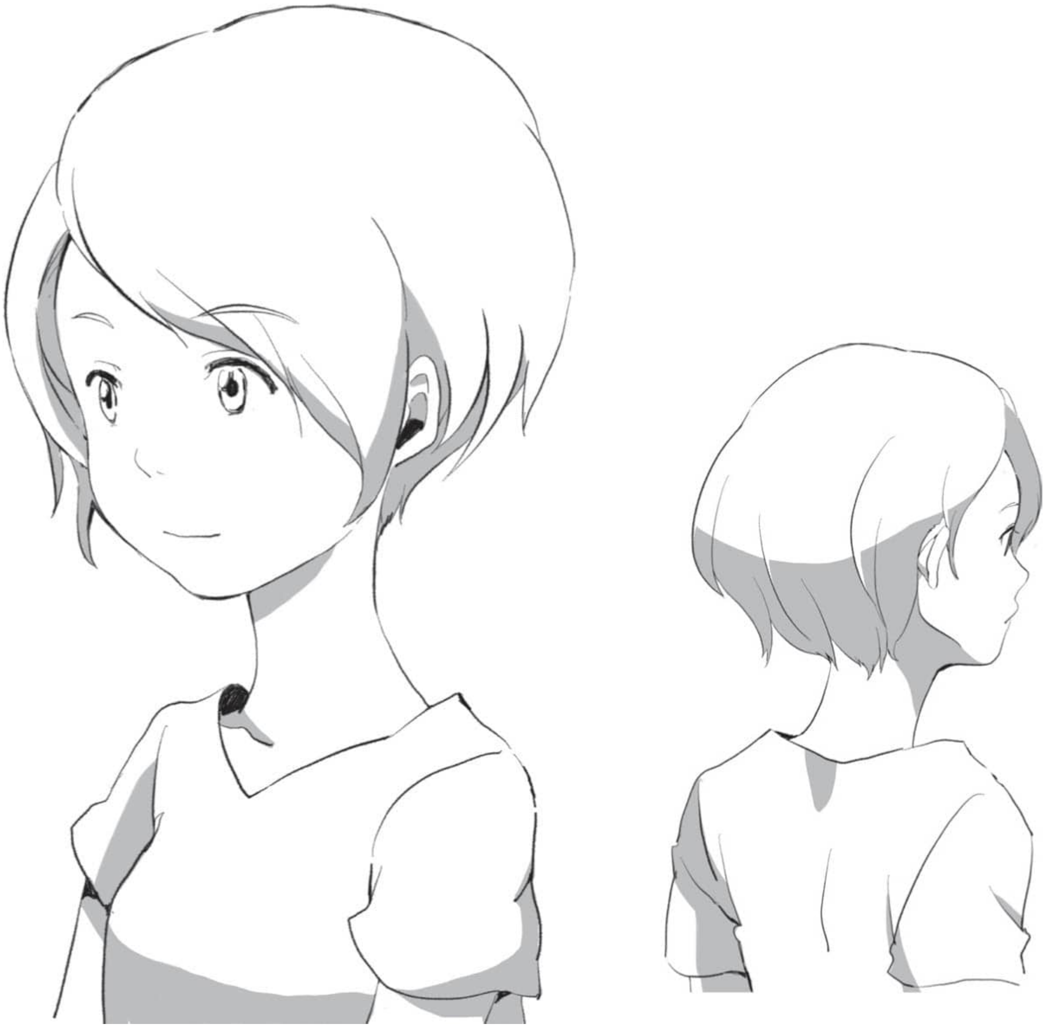
This style accentuates the roundness of the head with volume and fullness.



TIP
Extending the bangs to eye level softens the expression of the face.

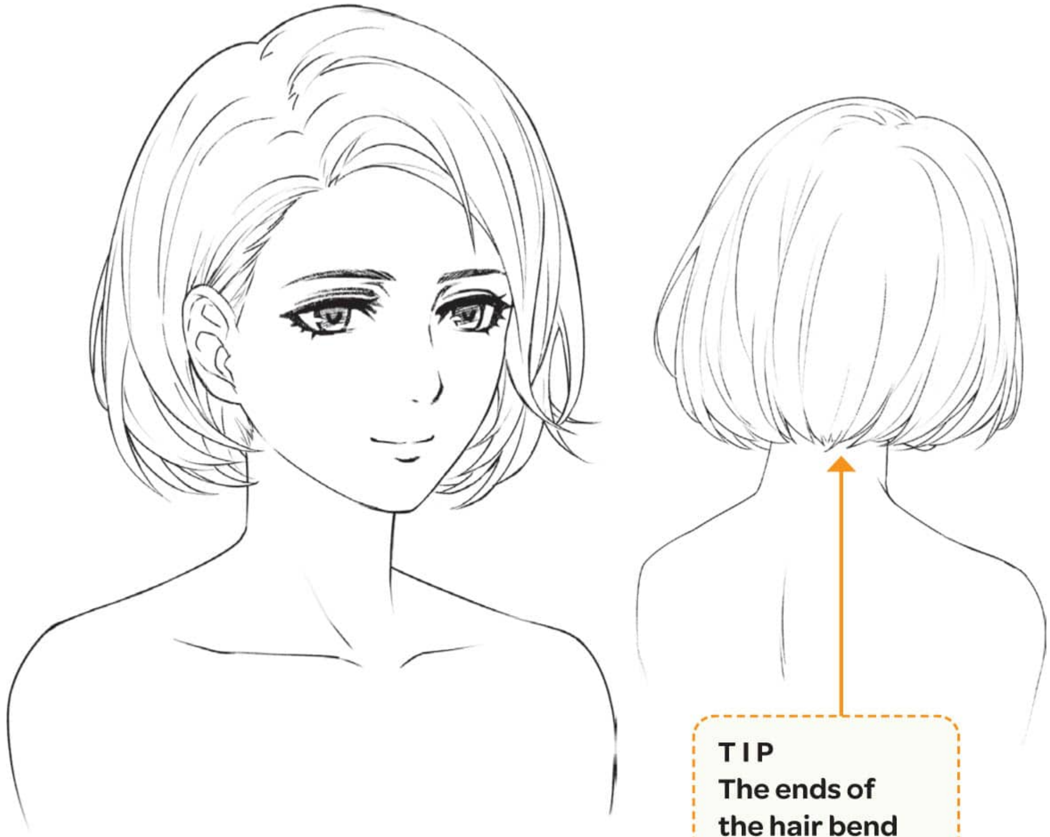
SHORT HAIR, SPIKED ENDS, LONG BANGS

Extending the left and right sides of the back hair and making the ends irregular gives this look its spiked texture.



SHORT HAIR, FULL SIDESWEPT BANGS

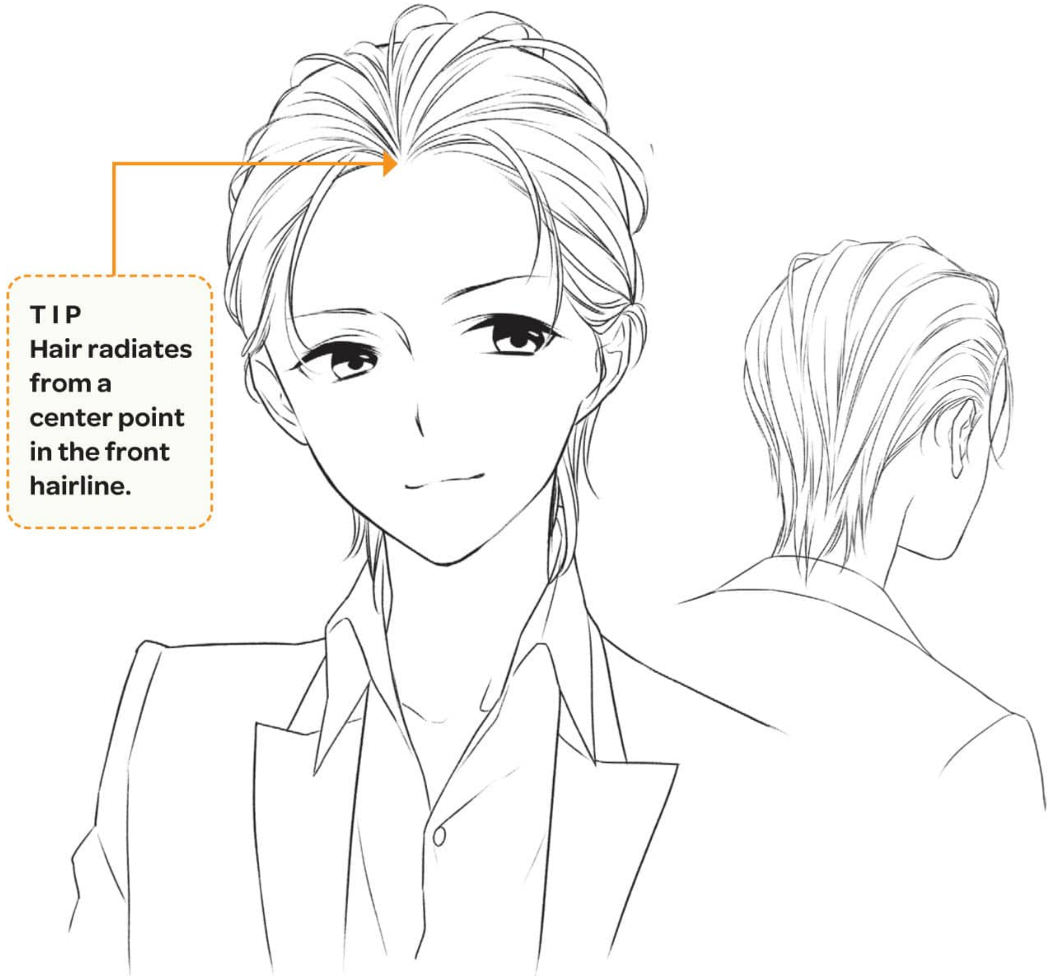
With very few defined sections of hair, this look has a soft, thick texture with a lot of volume.



TIP
The ends of the hair bend toward the back center and meet at a point in the middle.

SHORT, BOBBED HAIR, SIDE PART

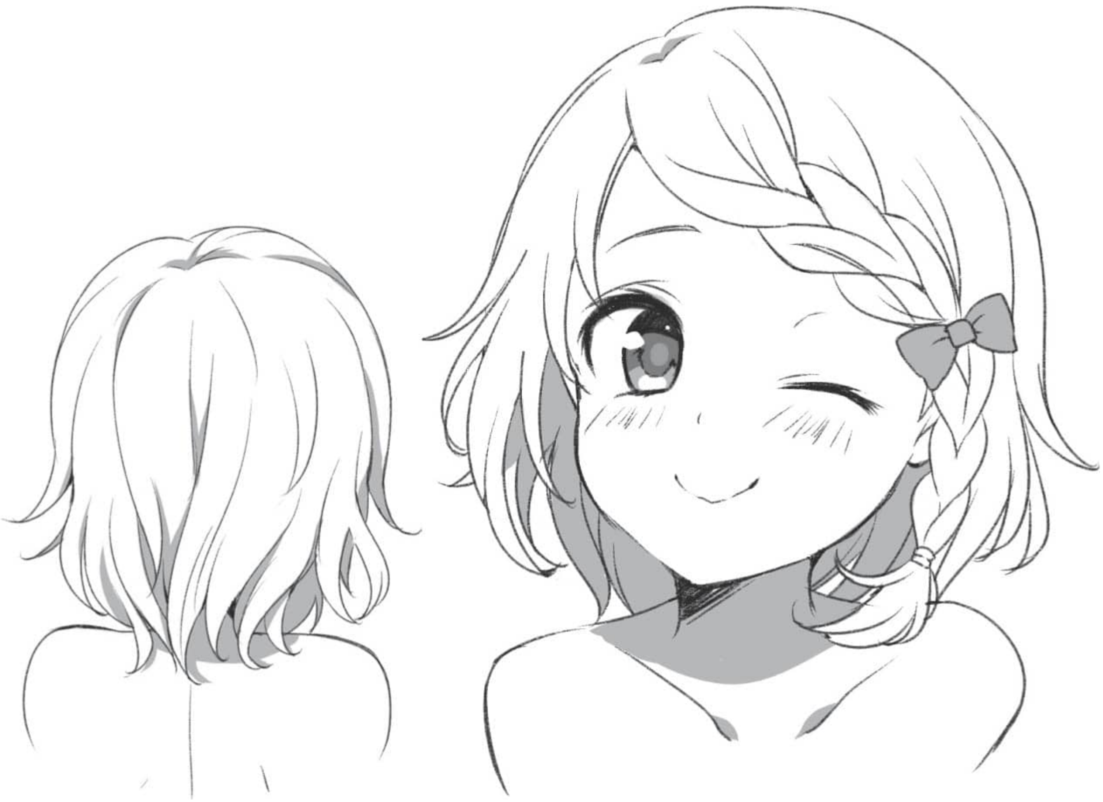
A “bob” is a chin-length cut that is the same length all around. Hair can easily tuck behind the ear and bangs are nearly as long as the sides.



TIP
Hair radiates from a center point in the front hairline.

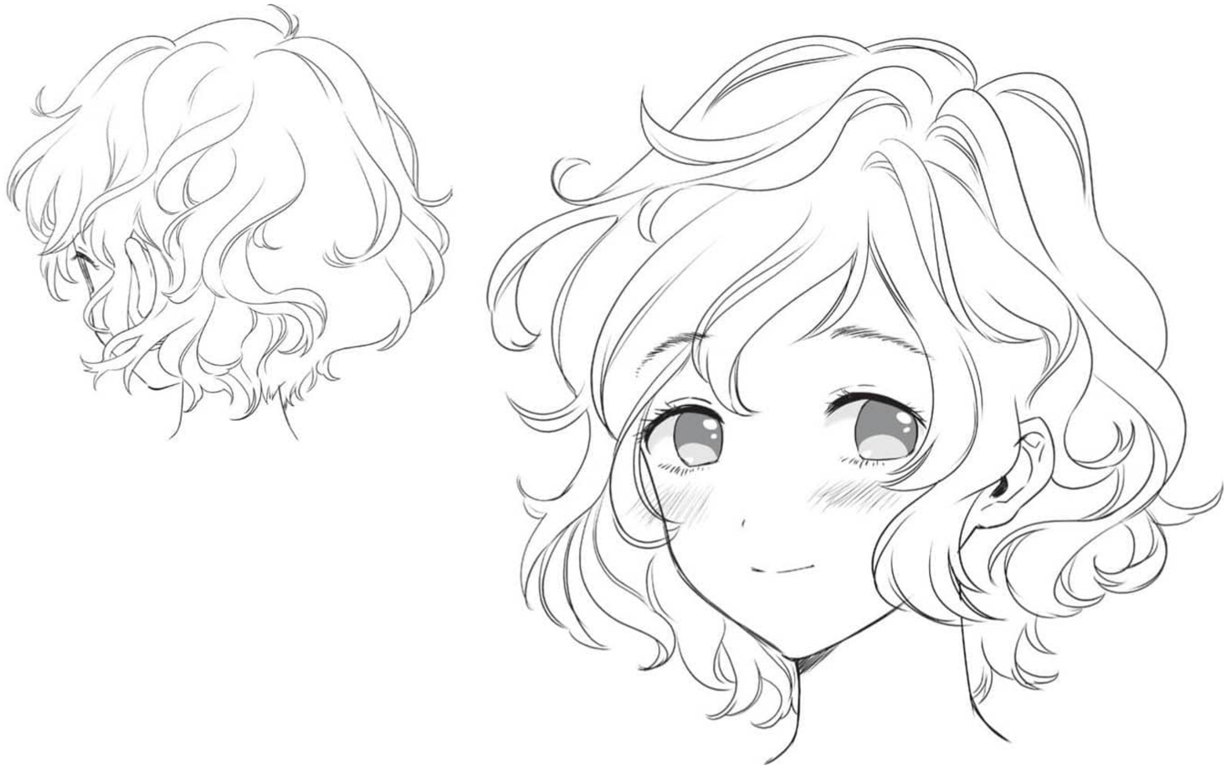
SHORT HAIR, STYLED BACKWARD

This style is drawn with thin, fine sections that appear to hug the head without a lot of volume.



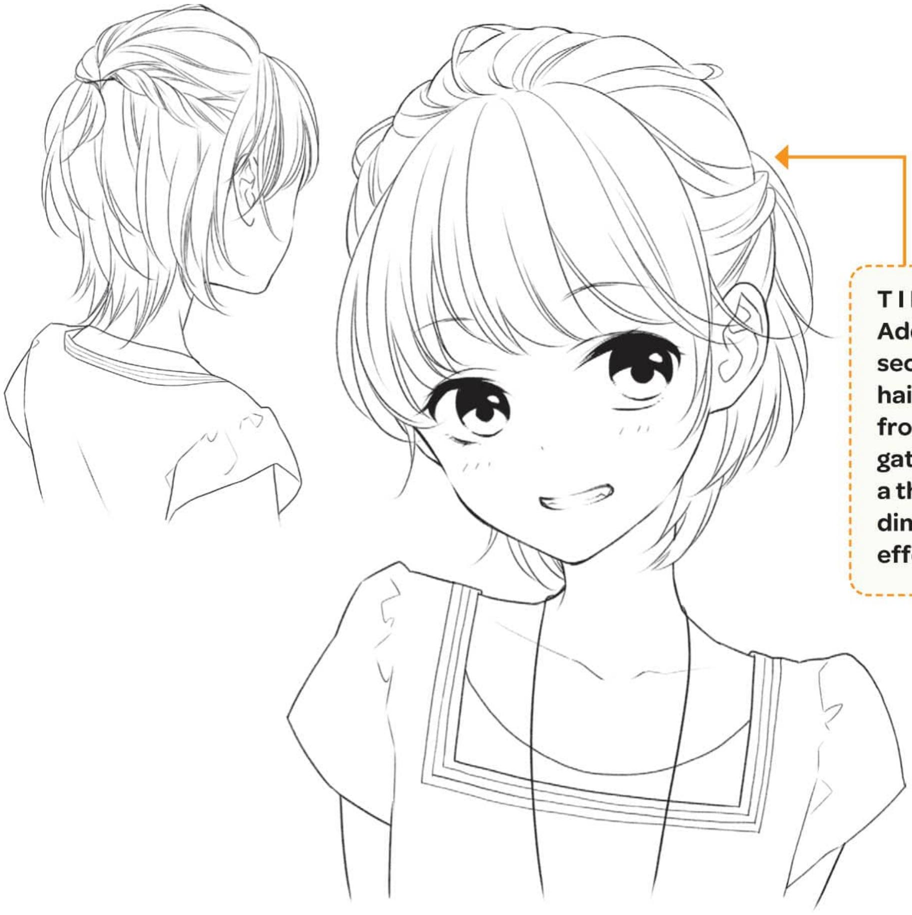
SHORT HAIR, BRAIDED BANGS

A simple braid pulls the hair off the face. A bow is added as a cute touch.



SHORT WAVY HAIR

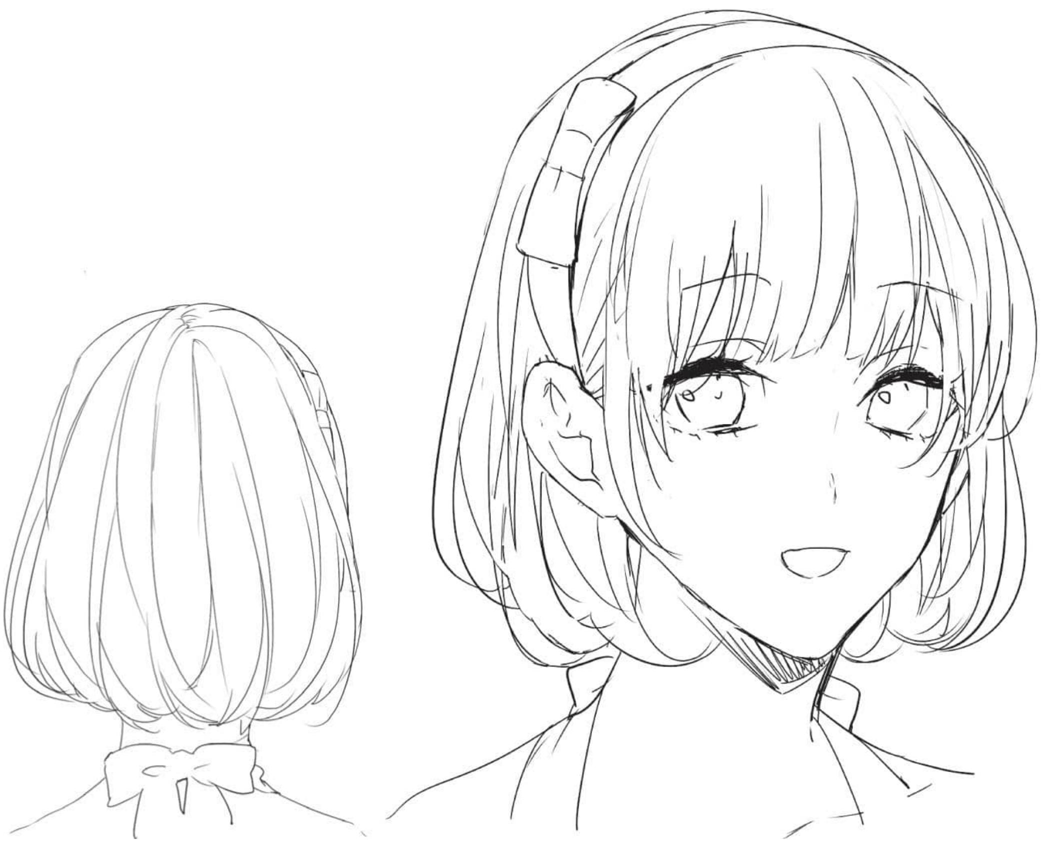
Accentuate the bends of each section to illustrate hair with lots of body. The various curls to the ends of the hair will give it a tousled look.



TIP
Add small sections of hair loose from the gather for a three-dimensional effect.

SHORT HAIR PULLED BACK

In this hairstyle, the side sections have been pulled up and tied. The bundle of hair in the tie is small due to the shorter overall length.

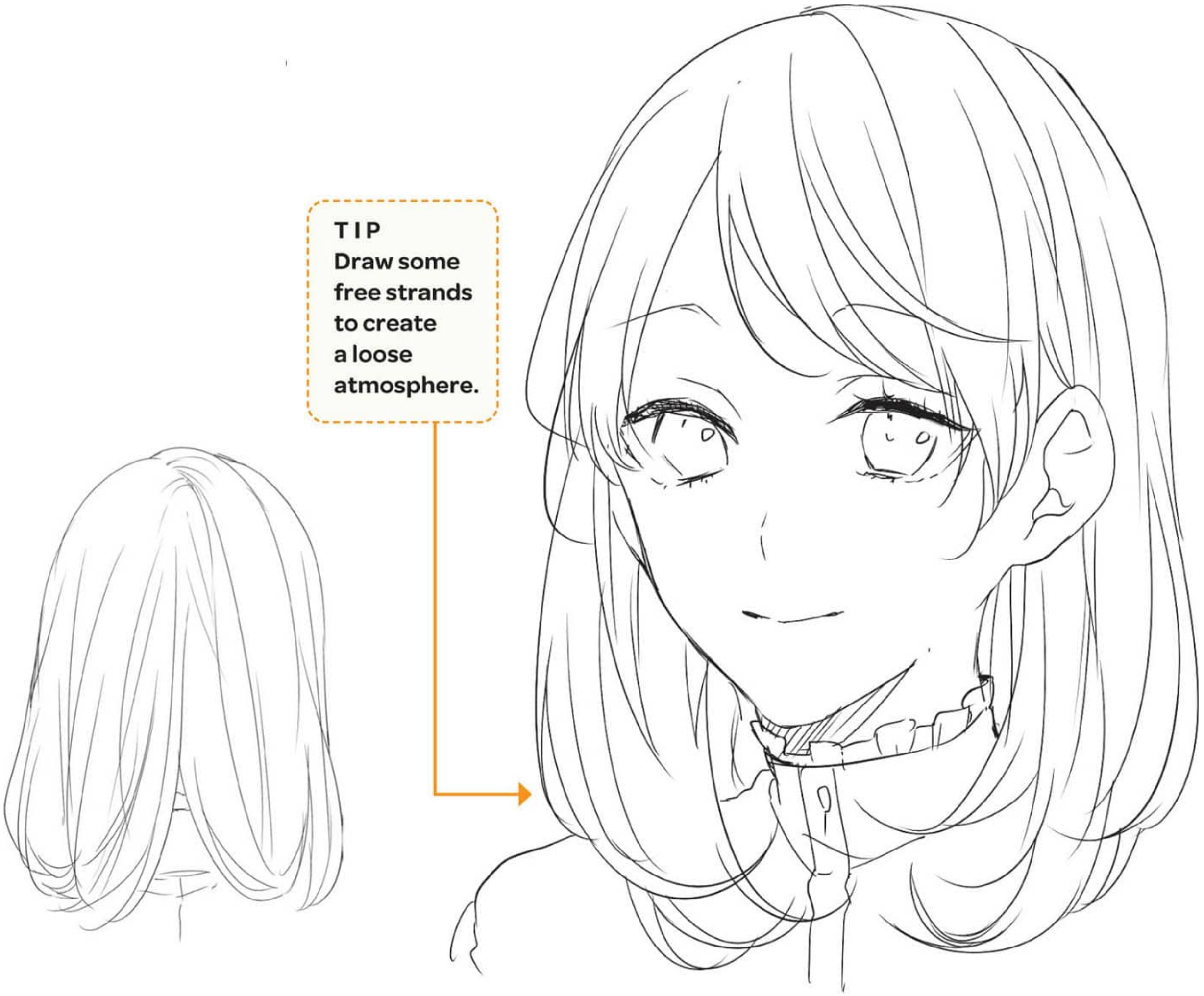


SHORT HAIR, HEADBAND

Here, the hair is held back from the face with a headband. It has been positioned behind the bang line and tucked behind the ears.

Medium-Length Hair

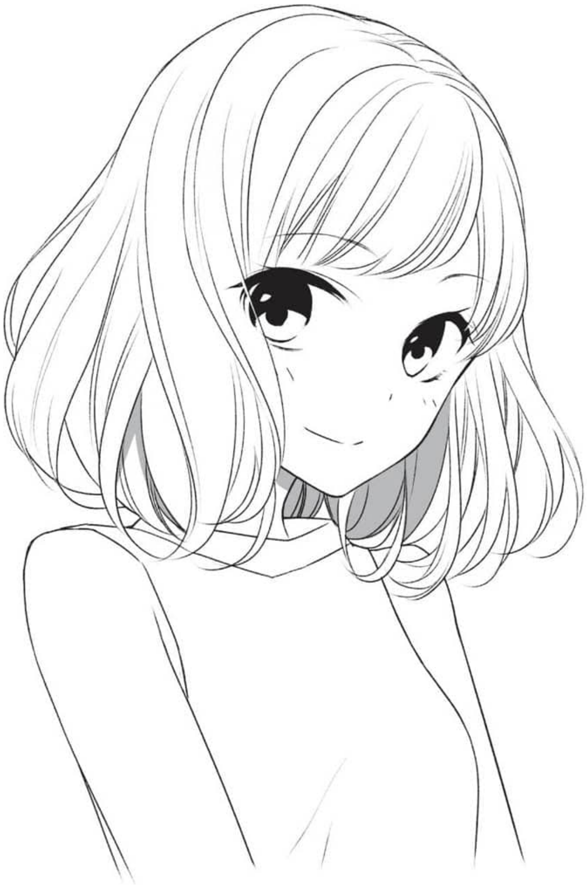
When drawing medium-length hair, there are more opportunities for creative styles. The length allows the hair to be manipulated more easily into ponytails, braids, and other updos.

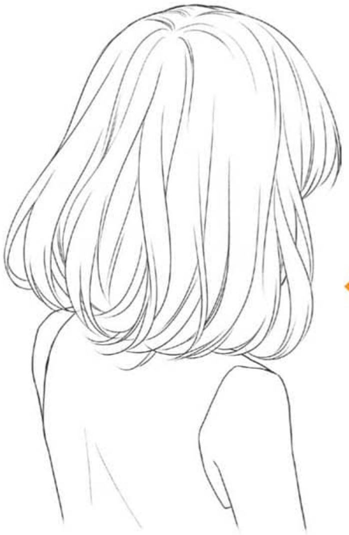


TIP
Draw some free strands to create a loose atmosphere.

STRAIGHT, MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, CURLED ENDS

This style is drawn with a number of sections, which implies less volume.

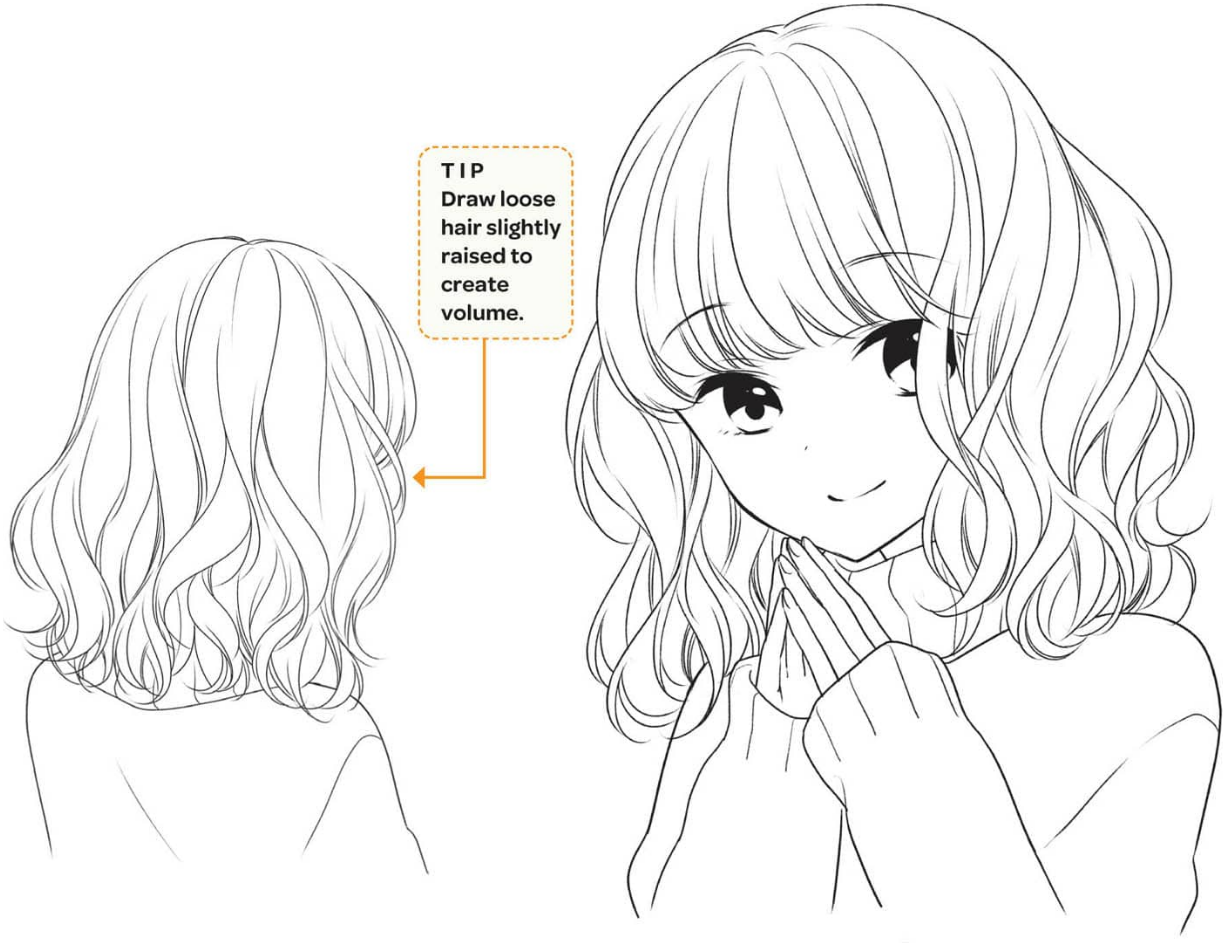




TIP
Make hair look light and airy by adding gaps between sections.

MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, BANGS

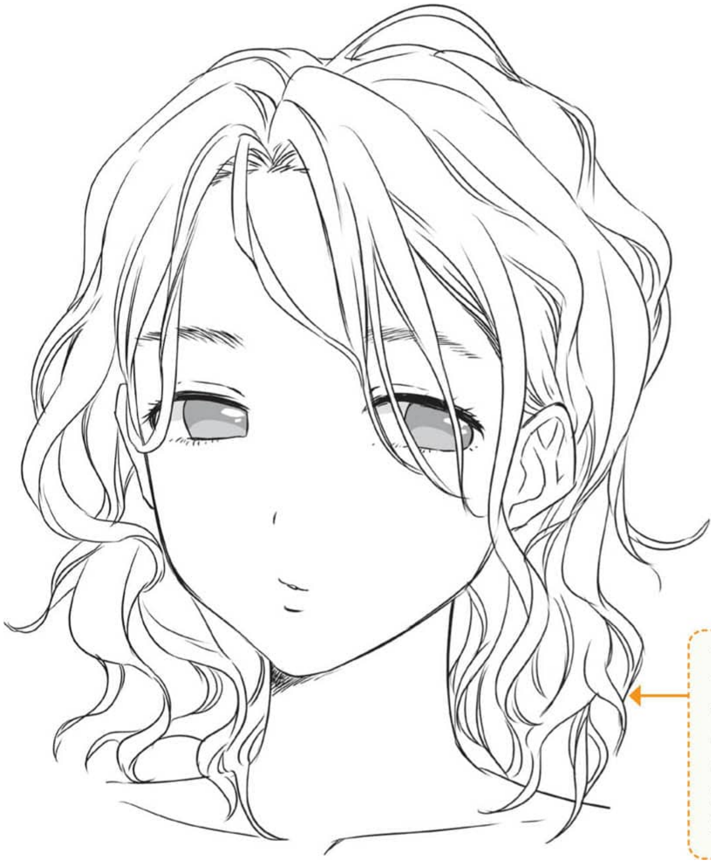
This style appears full and thick, but you can lighten it up by drawing sections spreading out and separating.

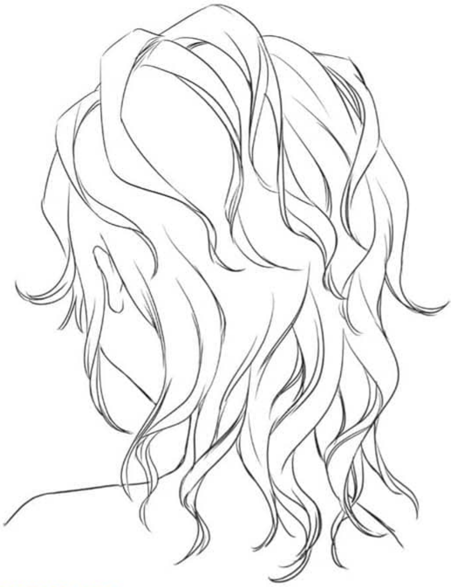


TIP
Draw loose hair slightly raised to create volume.

WAVY MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, BANGS

This wavy style is less tousled than short wavy hair due to the ends being kept close together for a more controlled look.

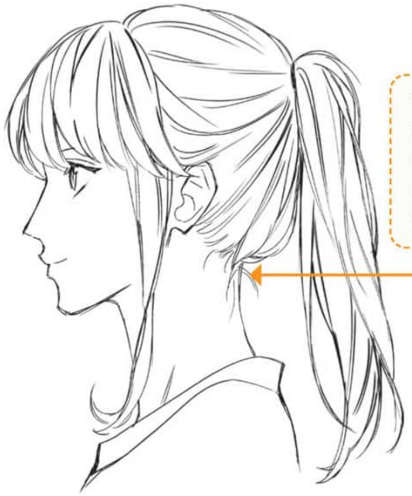




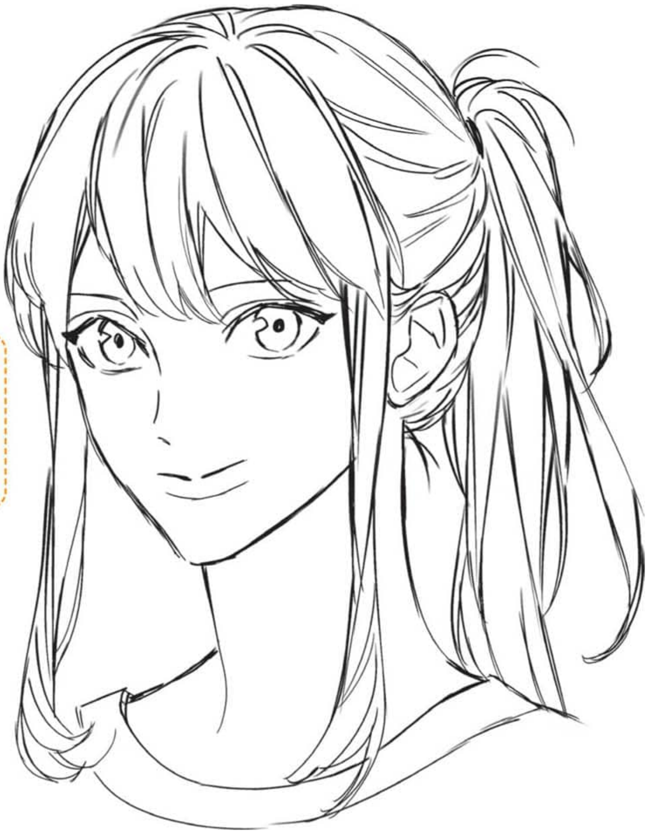
TIP
The S-bends of wavy hair are elongated when wet and the hair appears to have a lot less volume.

WET, WAVY, MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR

You can give hair a wet texture by drawing long, thin sections of hair that hang down irregularly.

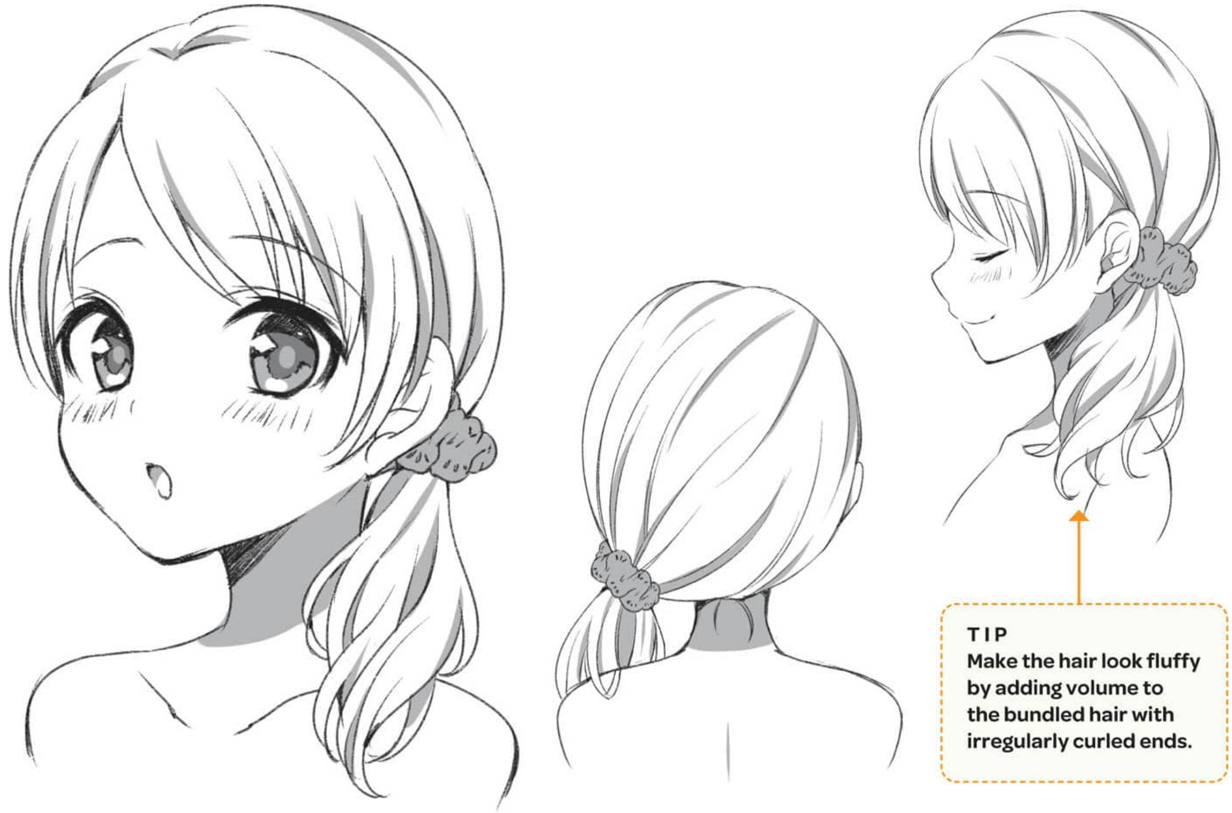


TIP
Loose hairs on the neckline add realism to this style.



MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, PONYTAIL

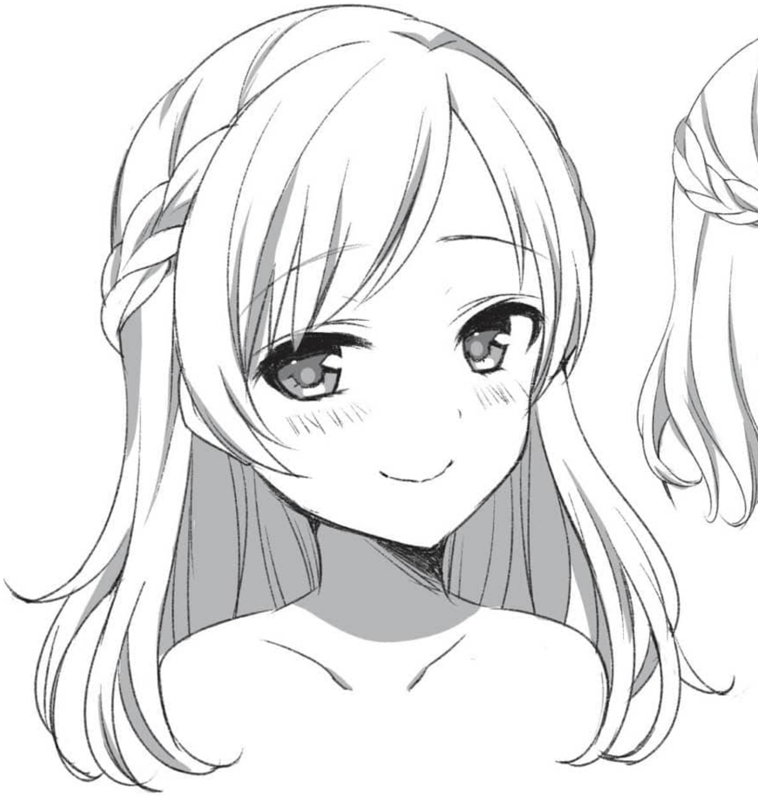
Add interest to a standard ponytail look by drawing sections of hair around the face.

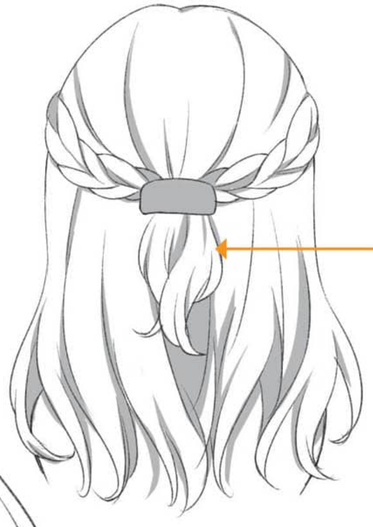


TIP
Make the hair look fluffy by adding volume to the bundled hair with irregularly curled ends.

MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, LOW SIDE PONYTAIL

In this sideswept style, hair is pulled into a low ponytail, just behind the ear. A scrunchie is used as the hair tie.

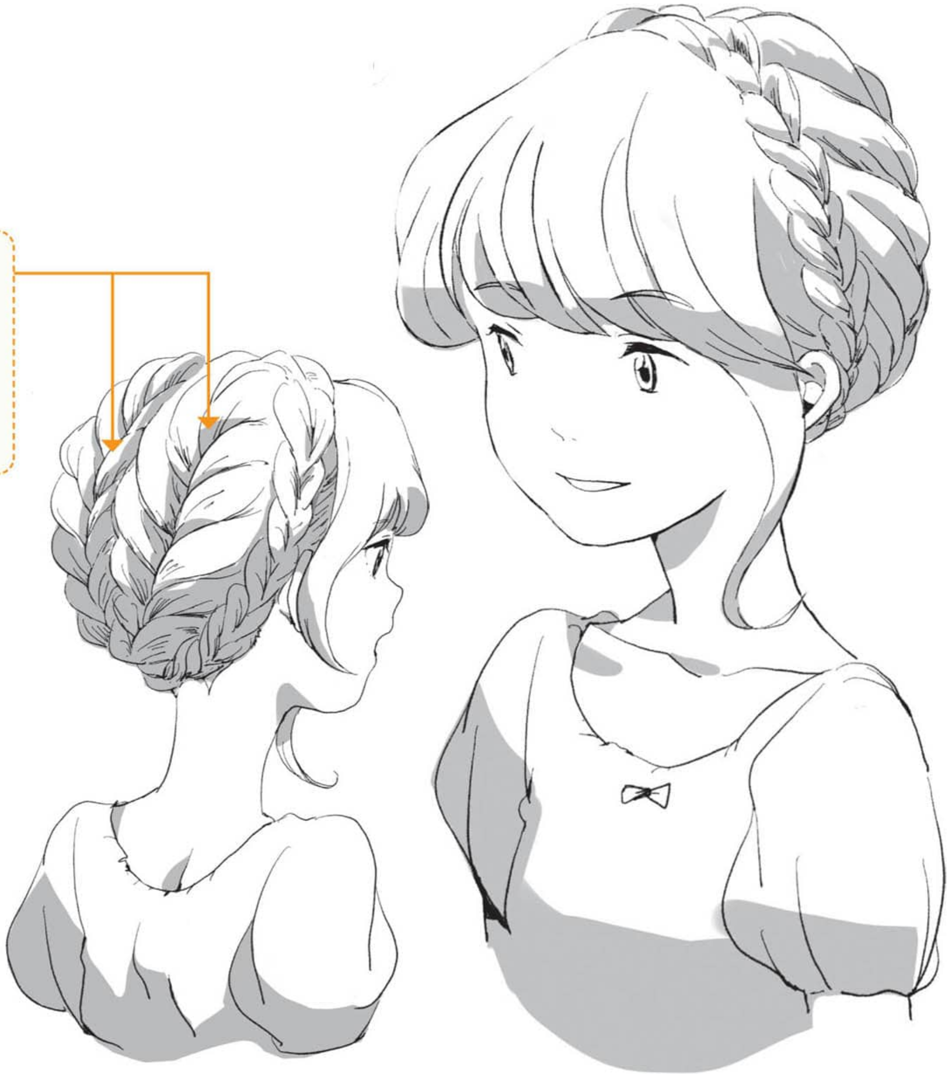




TIP
Draw the outline of the bundled hair smoothly curled to create a fluffy texture.

MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, SIDES BRAIDED BACK

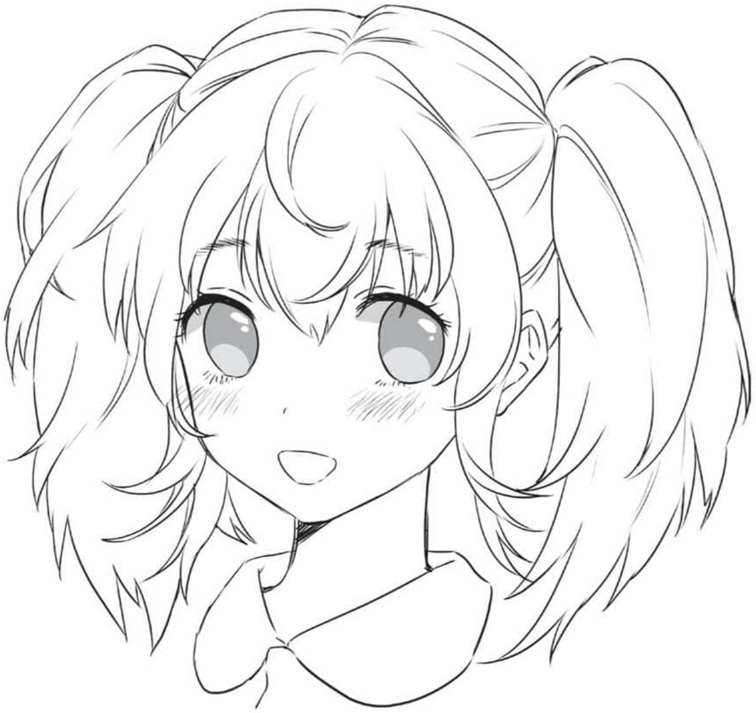
Sections of hair on the right and left sides have been braided and then joined at the back. They’re held in place with a wide barrette.

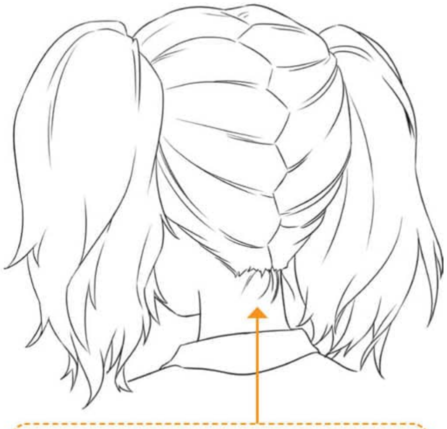


TIP
Draw the large French braids in the center first, then add two French braids on the sides to make it easier to grasp the shape.

MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, FULLY BRAIDED

This princess-like arrangement is French-braided in three places and bundled together. The ends have been pinned under at the back of the neck.

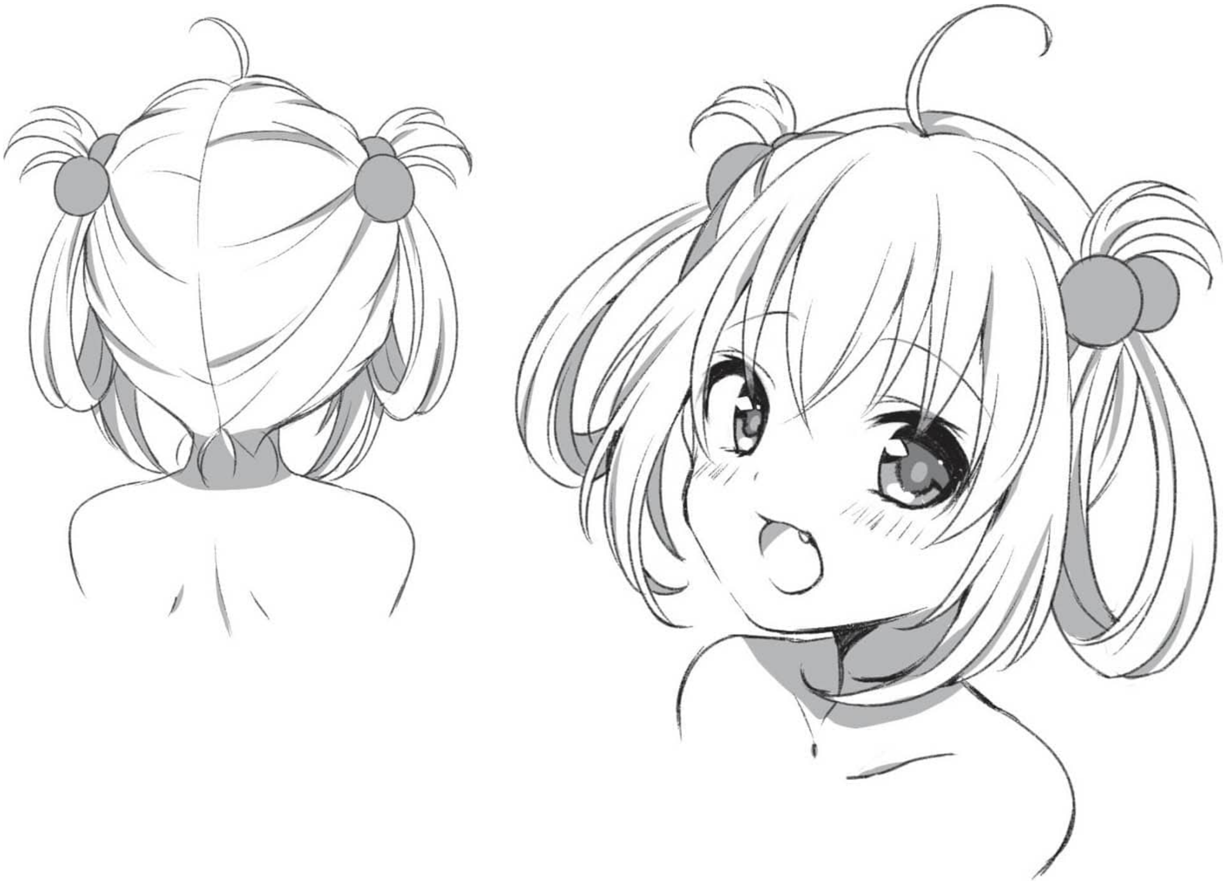




TIP
Have fun drawing a zigzag center part dividing the hair into two large sections.

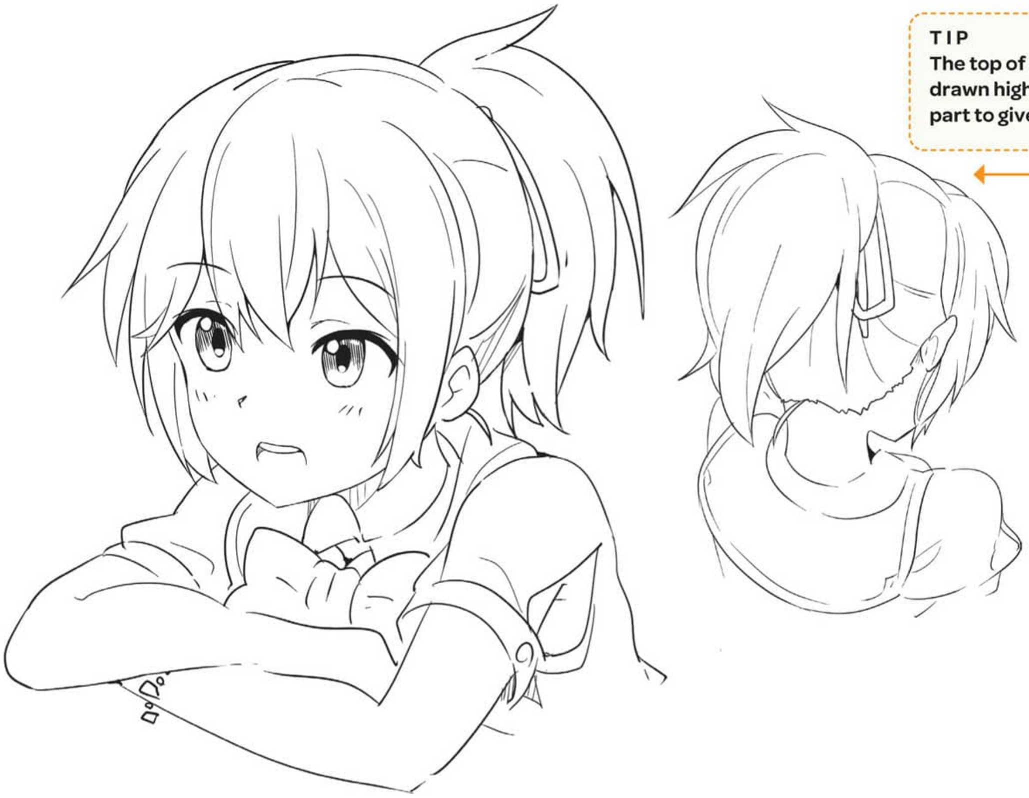
MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, TWIN PONYTAILS

These ponytails are drawn with a lot of volume and shaggy ends. The bangs and small side sections also have volume.



MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, UNIQUE TWIN PONYTAILS

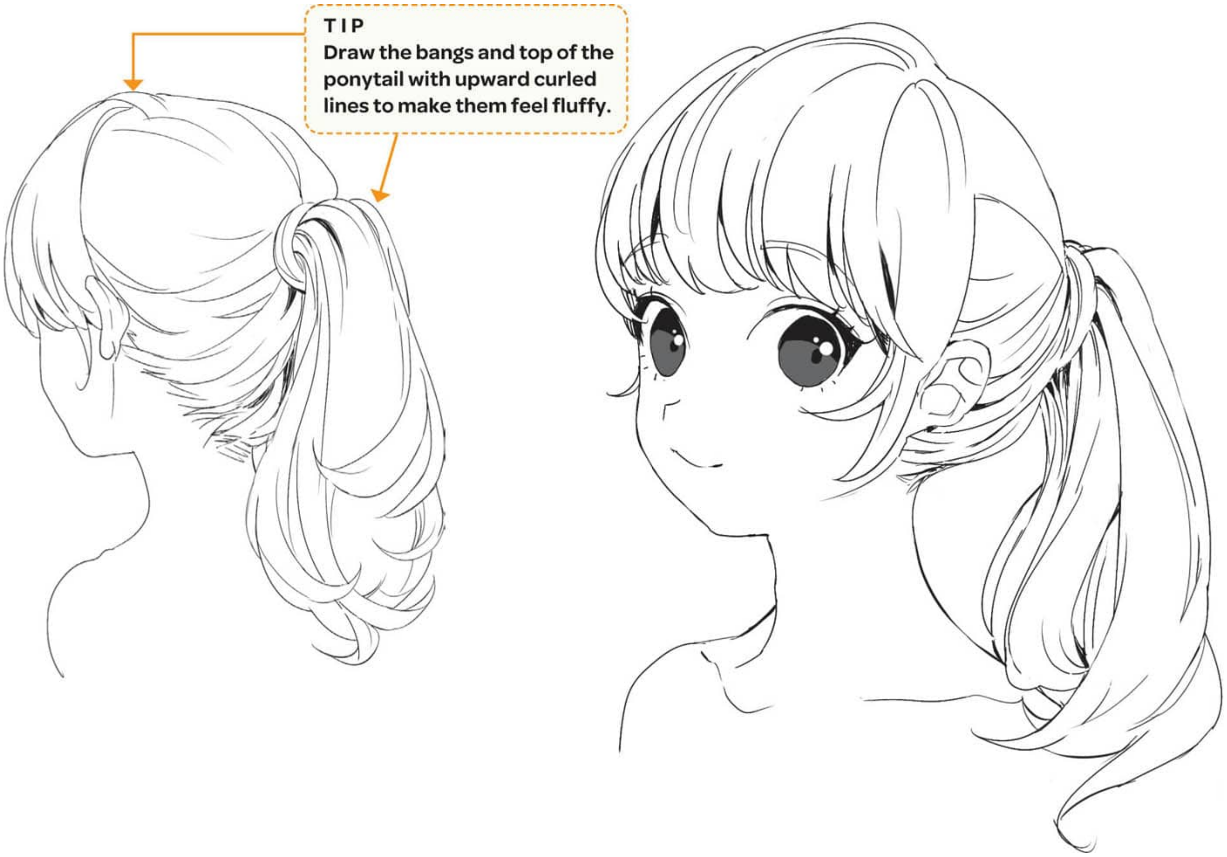
This style has an unusual set of twin ponytails that are gathered into playful loops. The ends pop out of the hair ties with a bouncy curl.



TIP
The top of the ponytail is drawn higher than the tied part to give a voluminous feel.

THICK, MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, HIGH PONYTAIL

This hairstyle features a large bundle of hair that is tied with a ribbon to create a wide, voluminous ponytail.



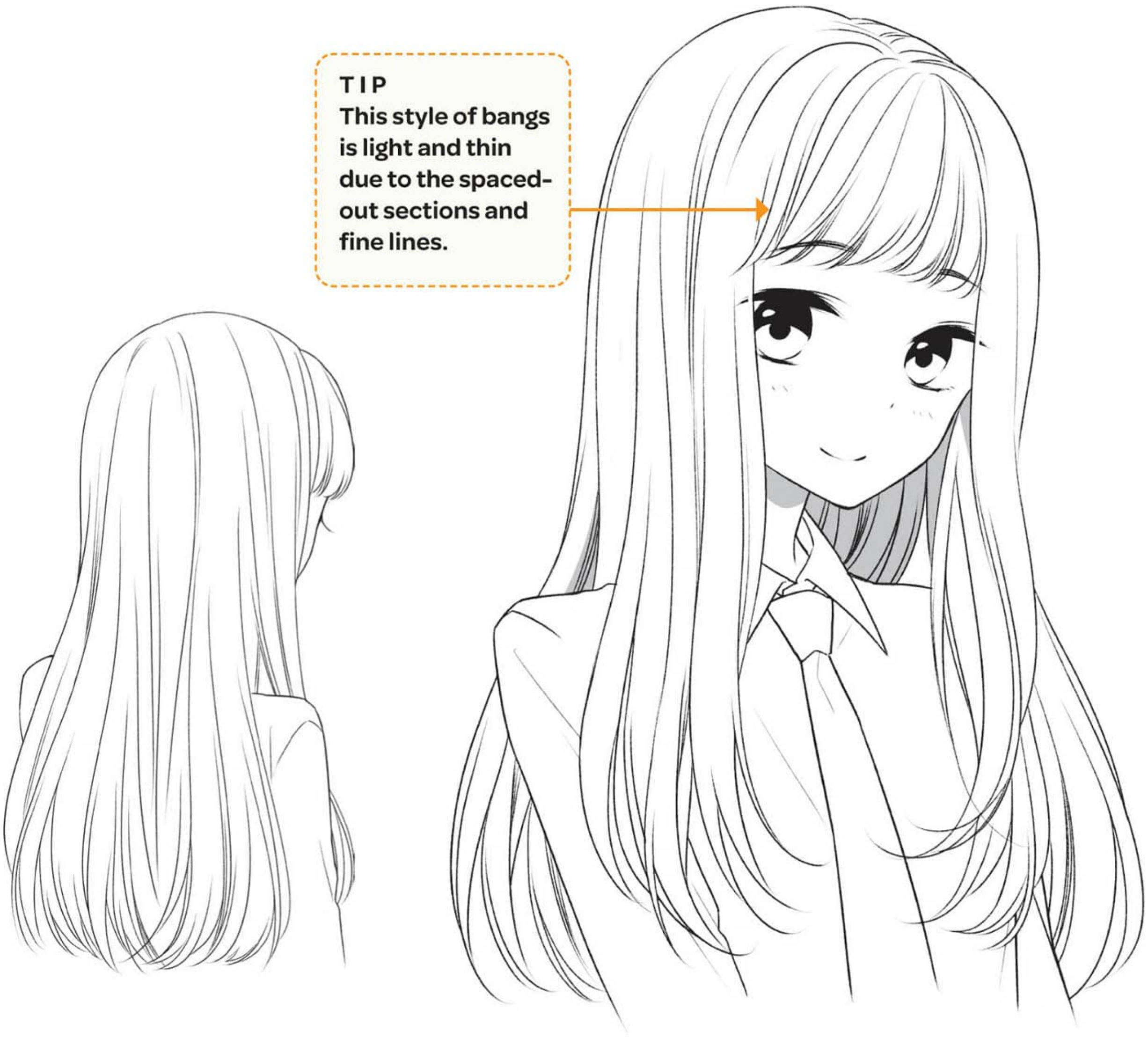
TIP
Draw the bangs and top of the ponytail with upward curled lines to make them feel fluffy.

MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, FULL BANGS, PONYTAIL

Use a strand of hair to cover the elastic tie for a chic ponytail style. By curling the ends of the hair and letting it hang loose, the look is relaxed and comfortable.

Long Hair

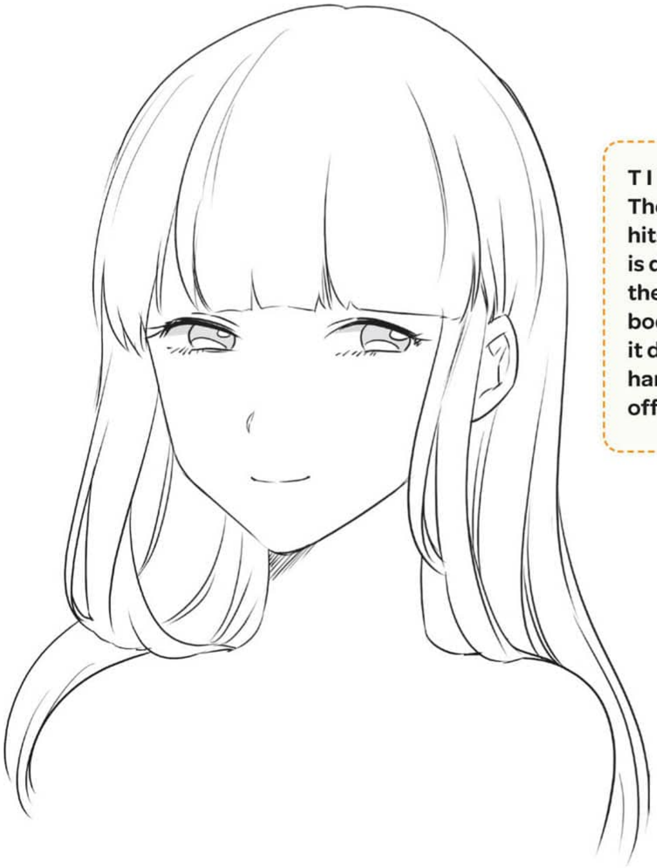
Whether straight or curled, long hair can look simple or dramatic. The key to making long hairstyles interesting is to focus on how the ends are treated to express a variety of textures.

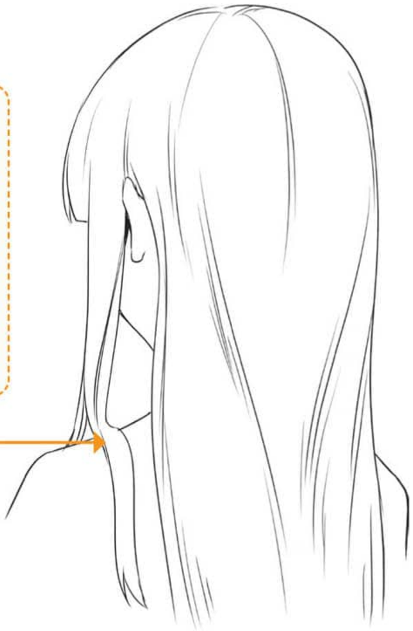


TIP
This style of bangs is light and thin due to the spaced-out sections and fine lines.

STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, BANGS

This hairstyle is drawn close to the head with long smooth lines to give the appearance of fine, straight hair.

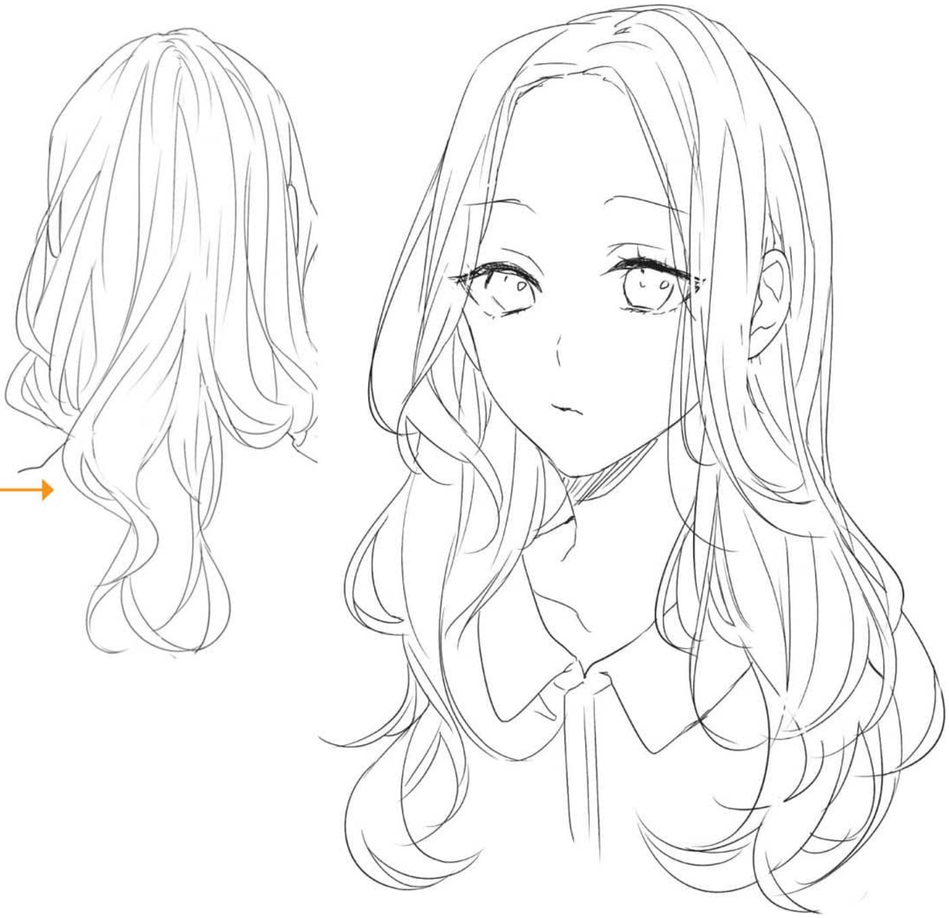




TIP
The hair that hits the shoulder is drawn along the line of the body to show it draping and hanging limply off the head.

STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, THICK BLUNT BANGS

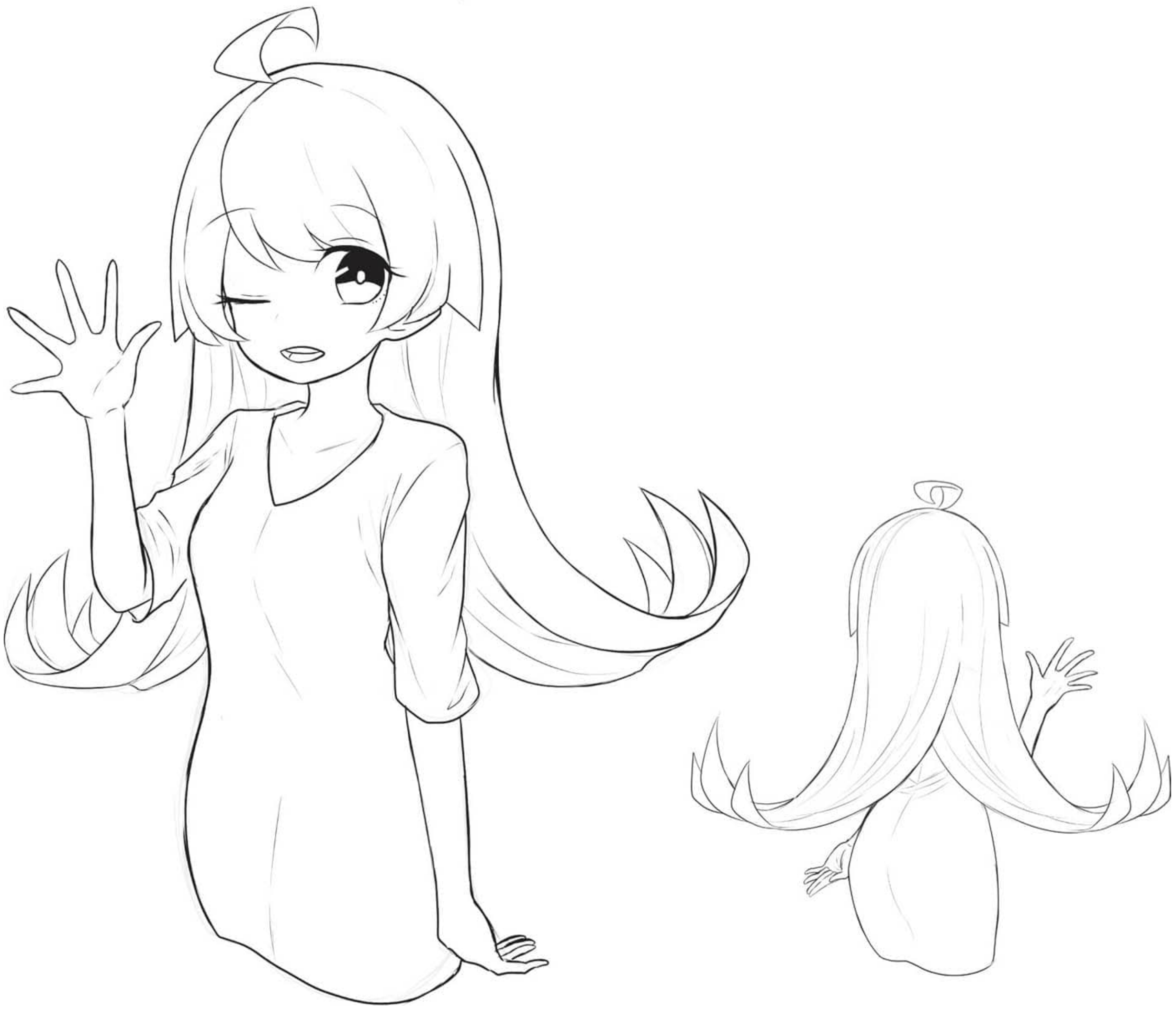
The lack of clearly defined, thin sections of hair across the bangs gives this a fuller and thicker look.



TIP
Drawing loose, separated sections of wavy hair gives this style a thinner overall appearance.

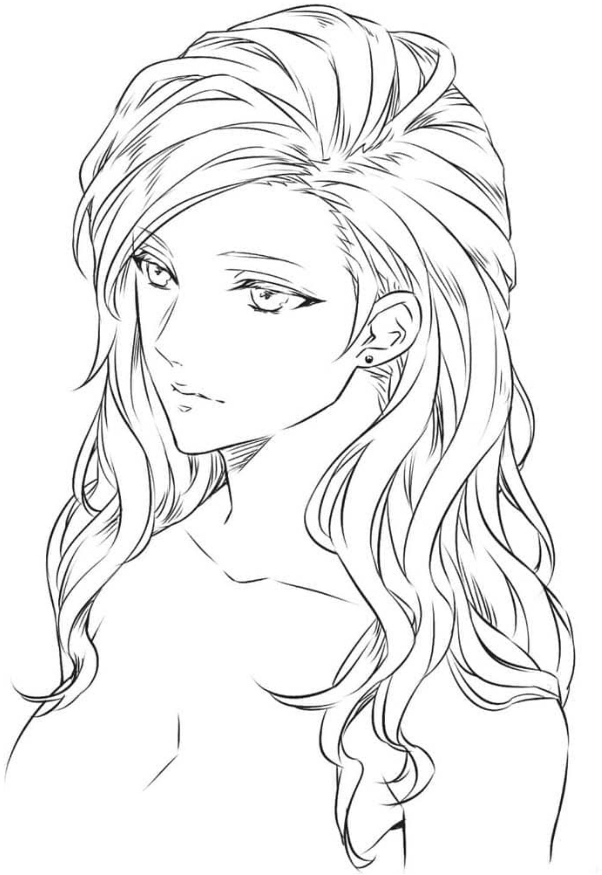
WAVY LONG HAIR, CENTER PART

This bang-less, wavy look is achieved with a center part. The side sections of hair are cut to different lengths and frame the face.

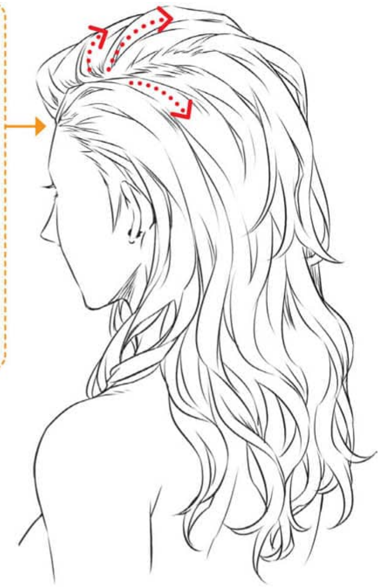


LONG HAIR, STYLED ENDS

Create a look that defies gravity with this long, straight style. The ends are divided into sections and shown with a large curl. The side sections of hair are drawn short, at ear level.

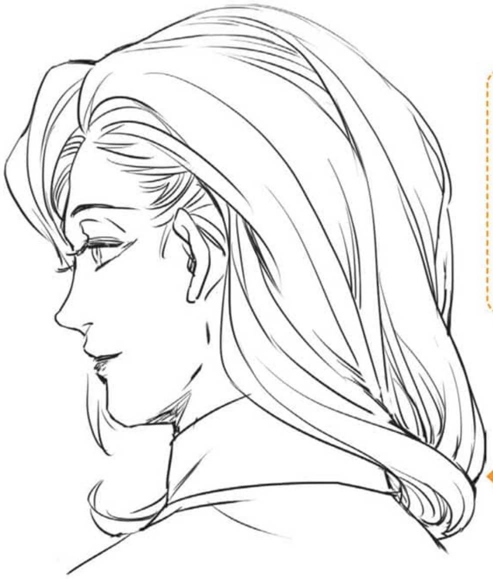


TIP
Draw the side hair flowing backward from the part and the hair from the bangs to the crown growing upward to create volume with a three-dimensional effect.

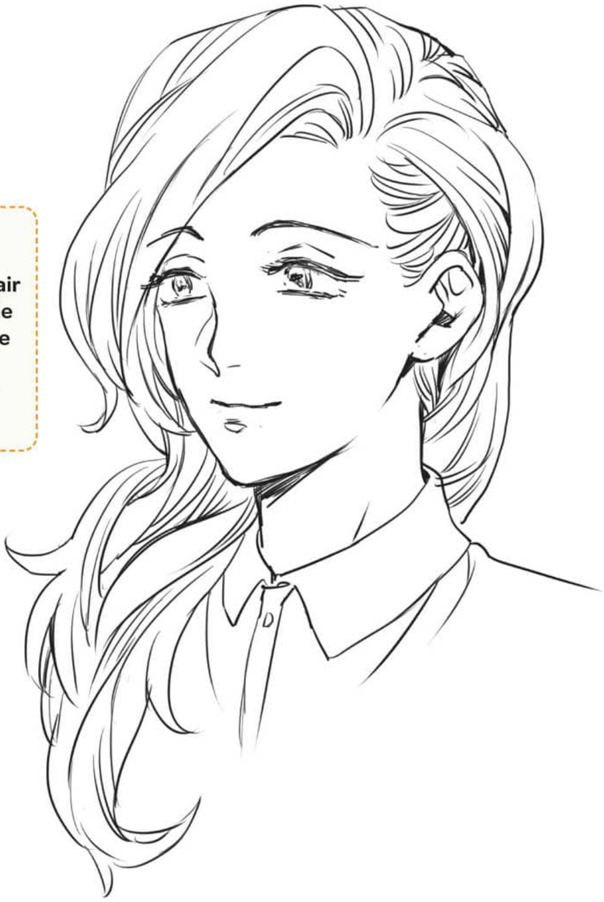


WAVY LONG HAIR, SIDESWEPT BANGS, SIDE PART

This hairstyle features high volume along the side part with hair drawn lifting off the head. The bangs are swept to the side, revealing most of the forehead.

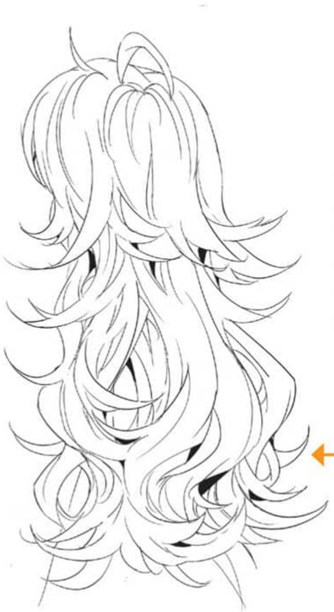


TIP
Draw the gathered hair with a gentle curve where it wraps around the neck.

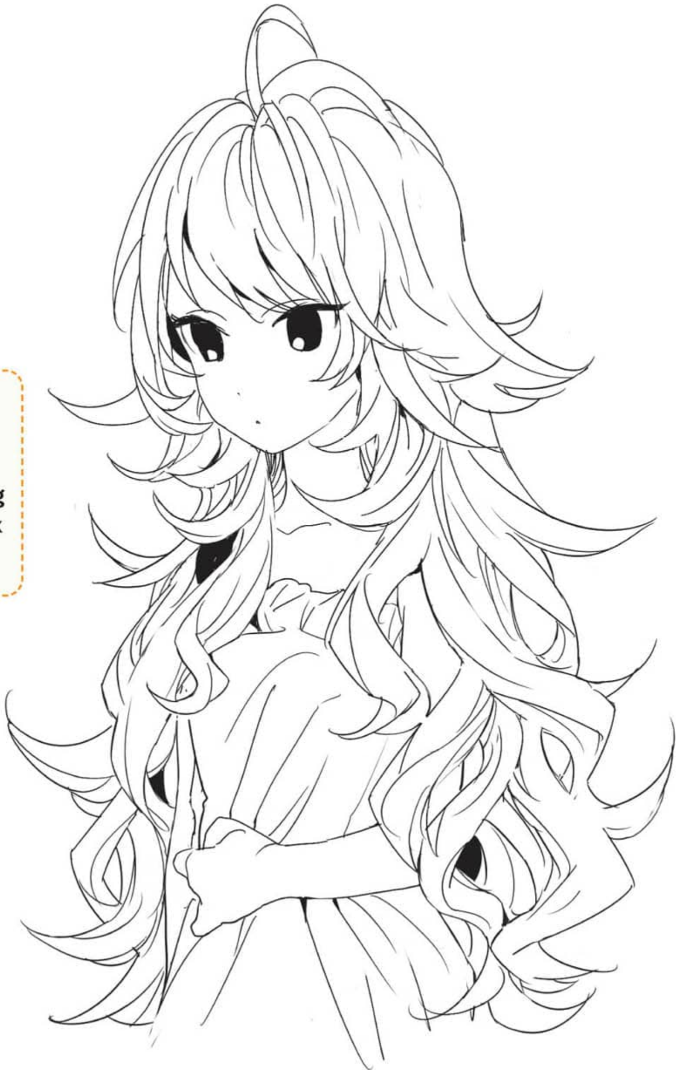


LONG HAIR, STYLED TO ONE SIDE

For an elegant, mature look, gather the hair together and let it hang over one shoulder.

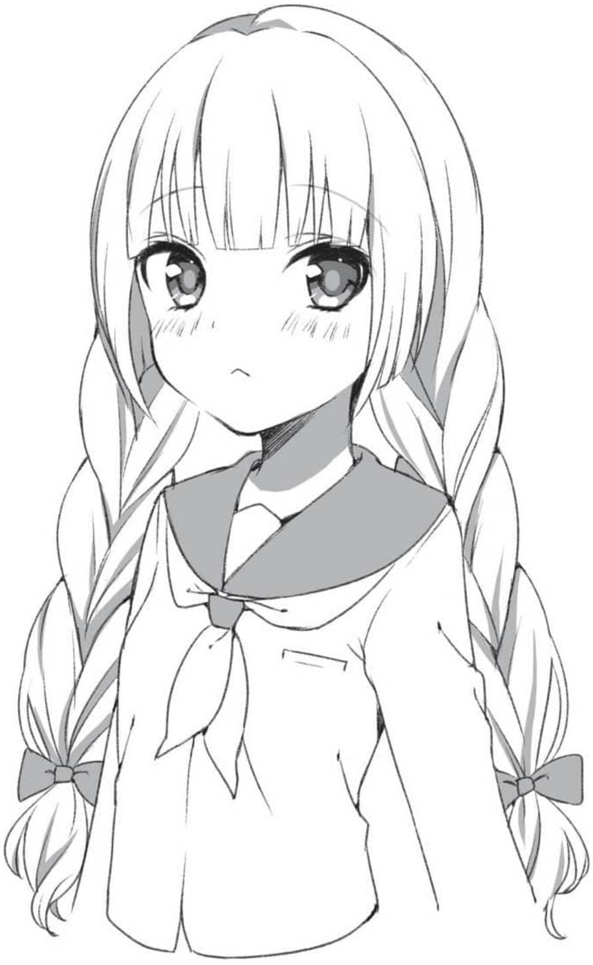


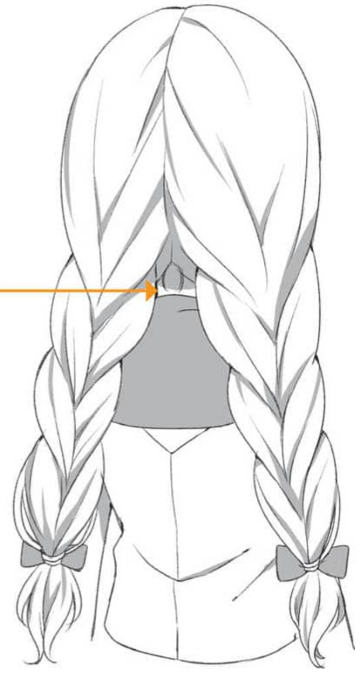
TIP
Create a three-dimensional effect by adding dark, solid black shadows.



WAVY, LONG HAIR, SHAGGY CUT

This style has strong visual impact. The sections are cut at various lengths and drawn with an outward bend. Longer sections are drawn with waves and again, the ends are curled outward.

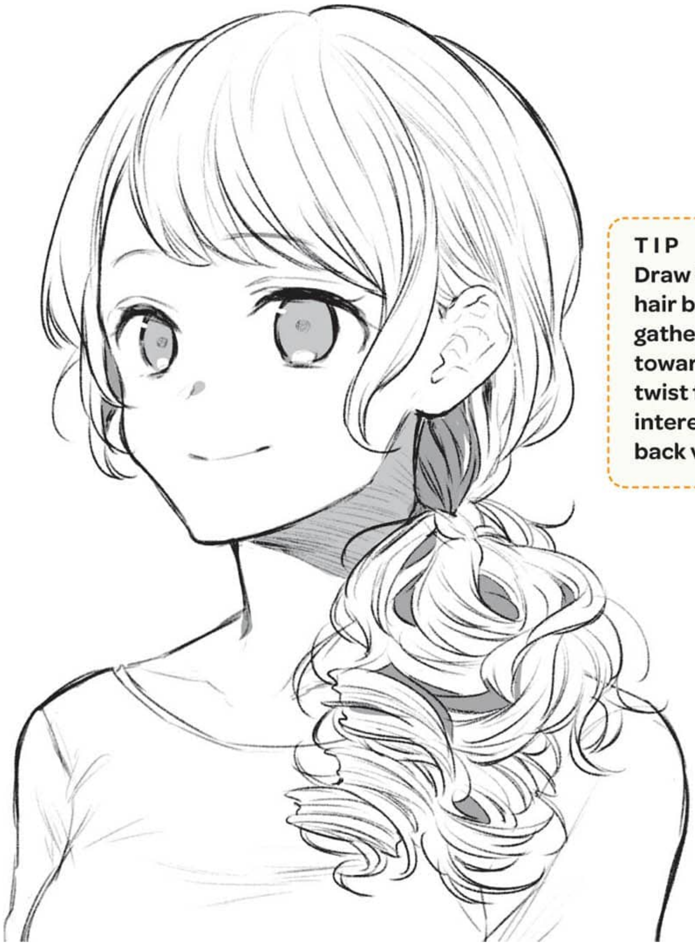


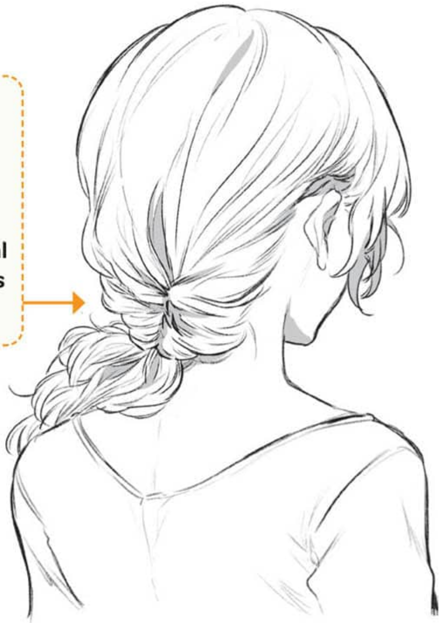


TIP
Draw some loose hair on the neckline, as well as neatly tied left and right braids, to produce a more realistic look.

STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, TWIN BRAIDS

These large braids suggest that this character’s hair is very thick and heavy. The small bows that tie the ends add a sweet charm.

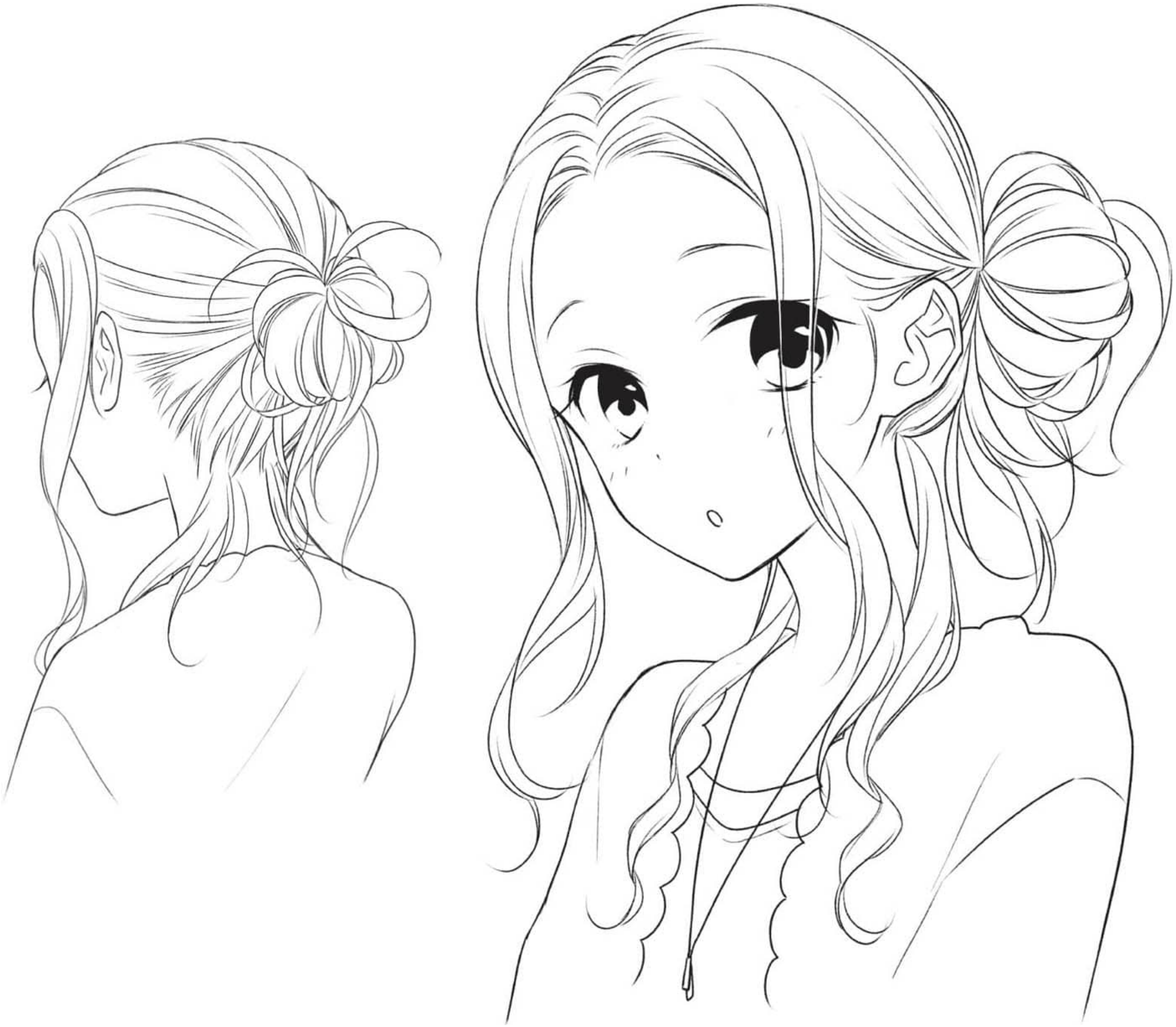




TIP
Draw the hair being gathered toward a low twist for visual interest in this back view.

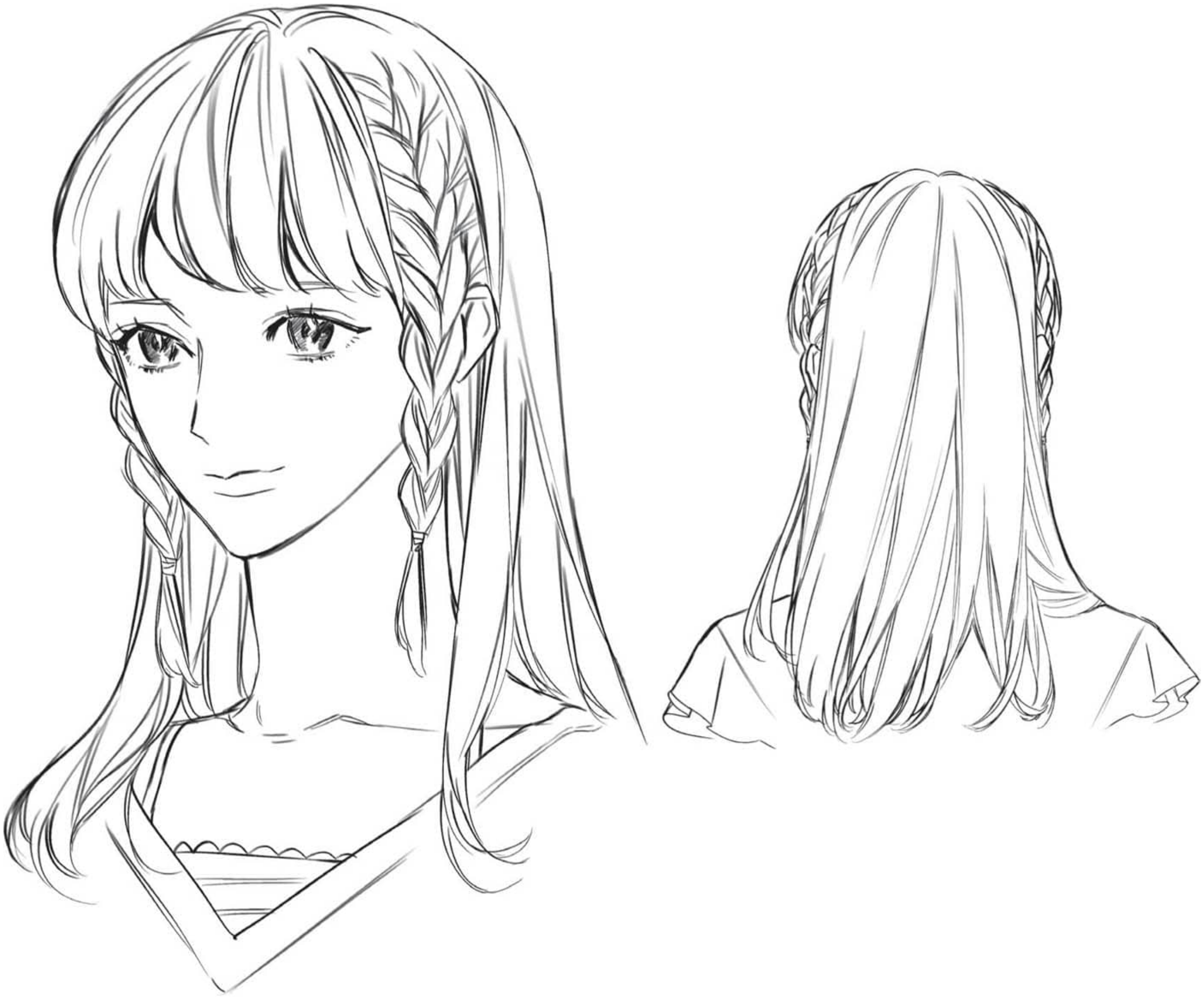
WAVY LONG HAIR, BRAID STYLED TO ONE SIDE

Drawing the hair larger and more rounded than the head gives this look volume. The hair gathered over the shoulder reveals the waves.



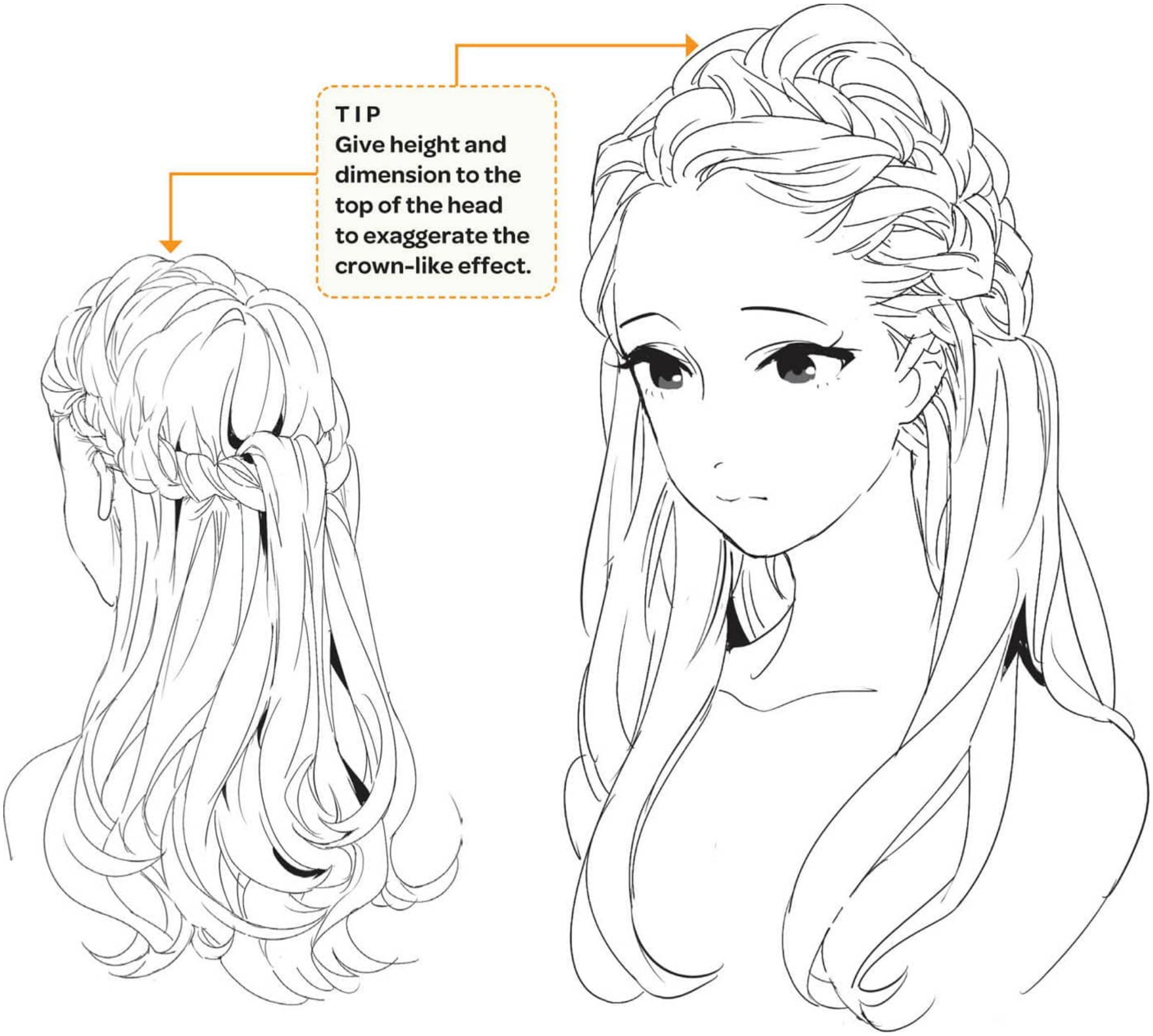
LONG HAIR, MESSY BUN

This messy bun is achieved with long hair bundled roughly to the back. Sections of hair are drawn falling loosely from the bundle for a tousled look.



STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, SIDE BRAIDS

This hairstyle features French braids framing the face. The braids drape in front of the ears with simple ties at each end.



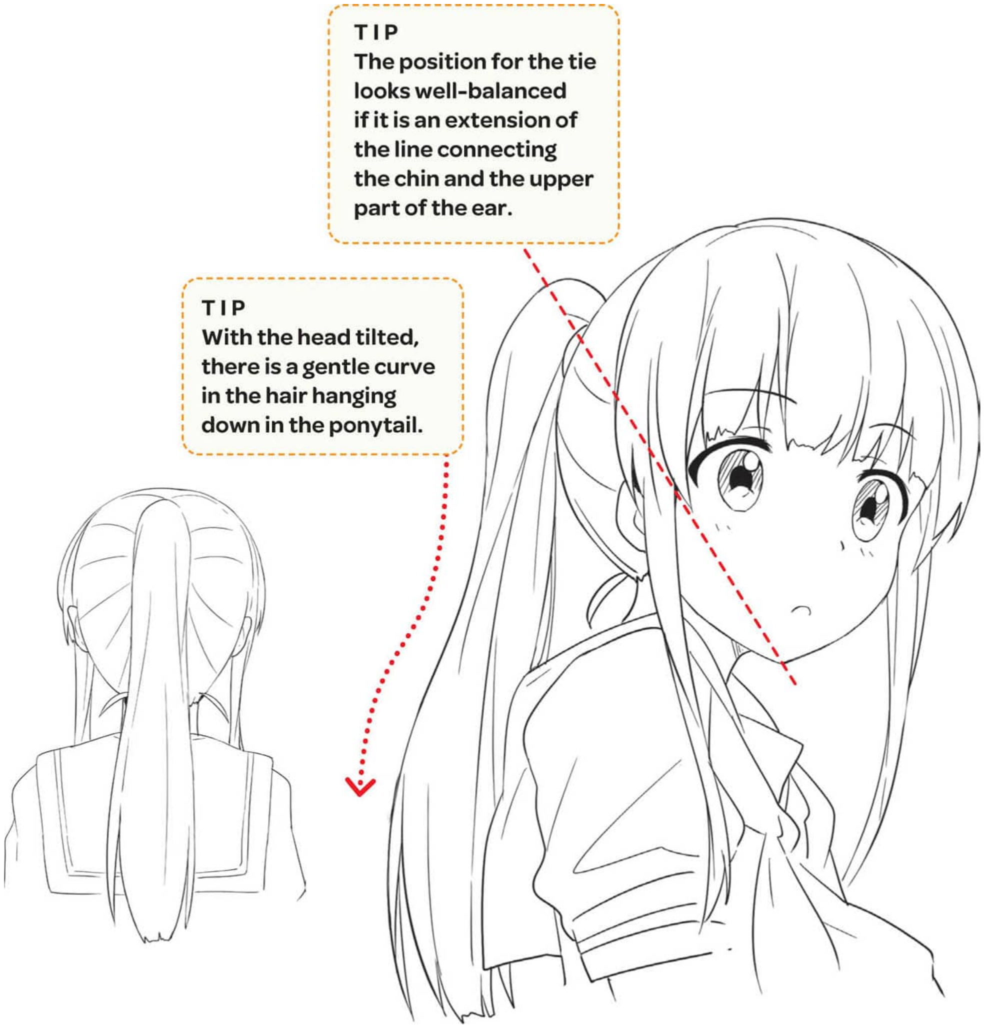
TIP
Give height and dimension to the top of the head to exaggerate the crown-like effect.

LONG HAIR, BRAIDED CROWN

Here, bangs have been braided into a style that wraps from the front to the back in a crown-like finished look.

Advanced Hairstyles

Some female hairstyles require more thought when being drawn to appear natural and realistic. Here, you'll learn what to keep in mind for advanced styles.

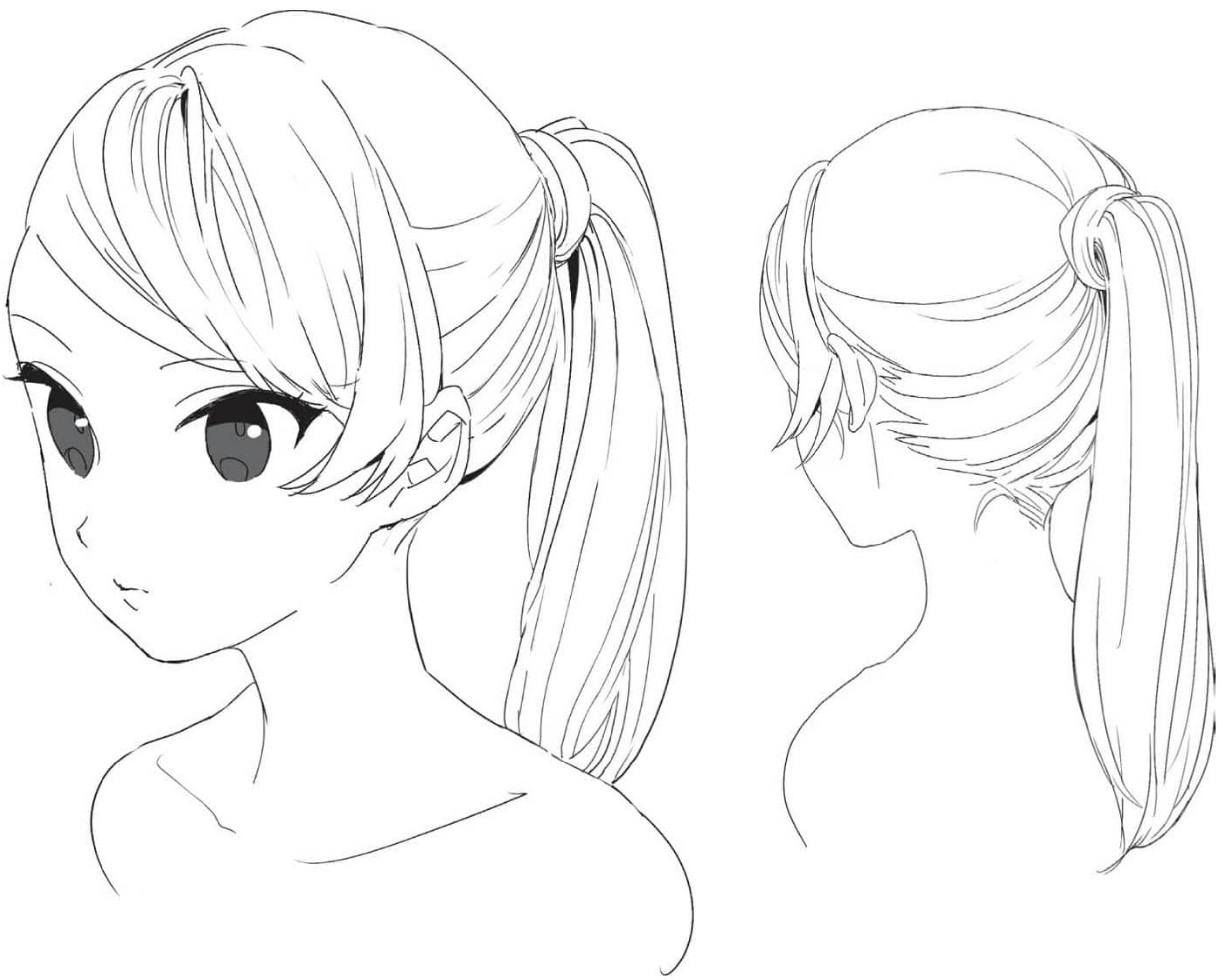


TIP
The position for the tie looks well-balanced if it is an extension of the line connecting the chin and the upper part of the ear.

TIP
With the head tilted, there is a gentle curve in the hair hanging down in the ponytail.

LONG HAIR, HIGH PONYTAIL

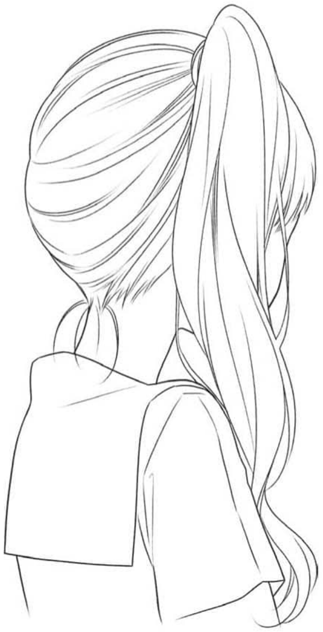
If you bundle straight hair into a ponytail, the hair will hang straight down from the tied position. Be sure to draw the hair being gathered flowing toward the center of the tie.

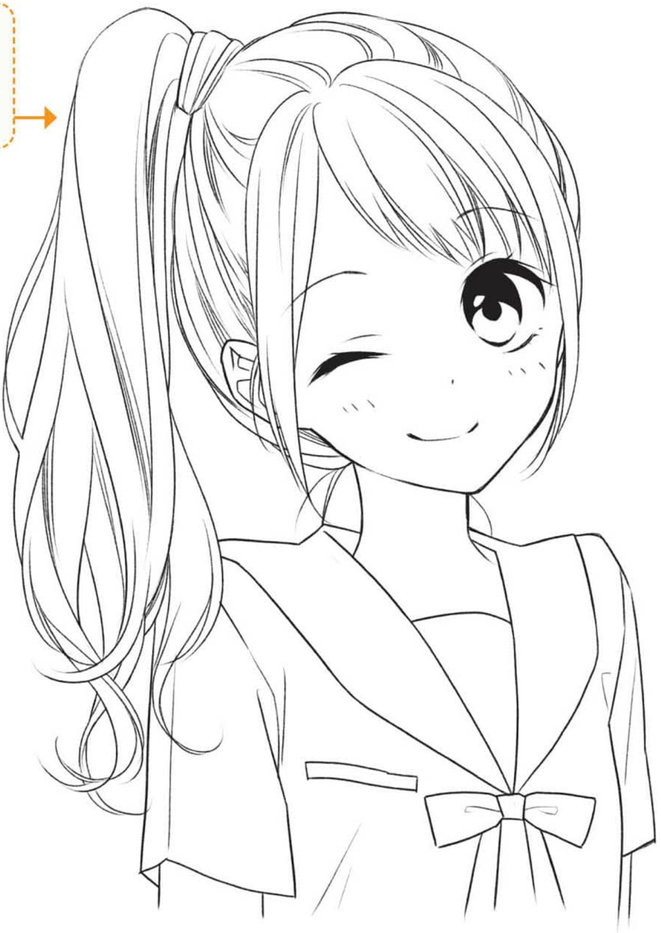


LONG HAIR, SIDESWEPT BANGS, PONYTAIL

Here, the hair is wrapped around the tie to hide the hair elastic. Because it is wrapped tightly, the hair looks like a ring.

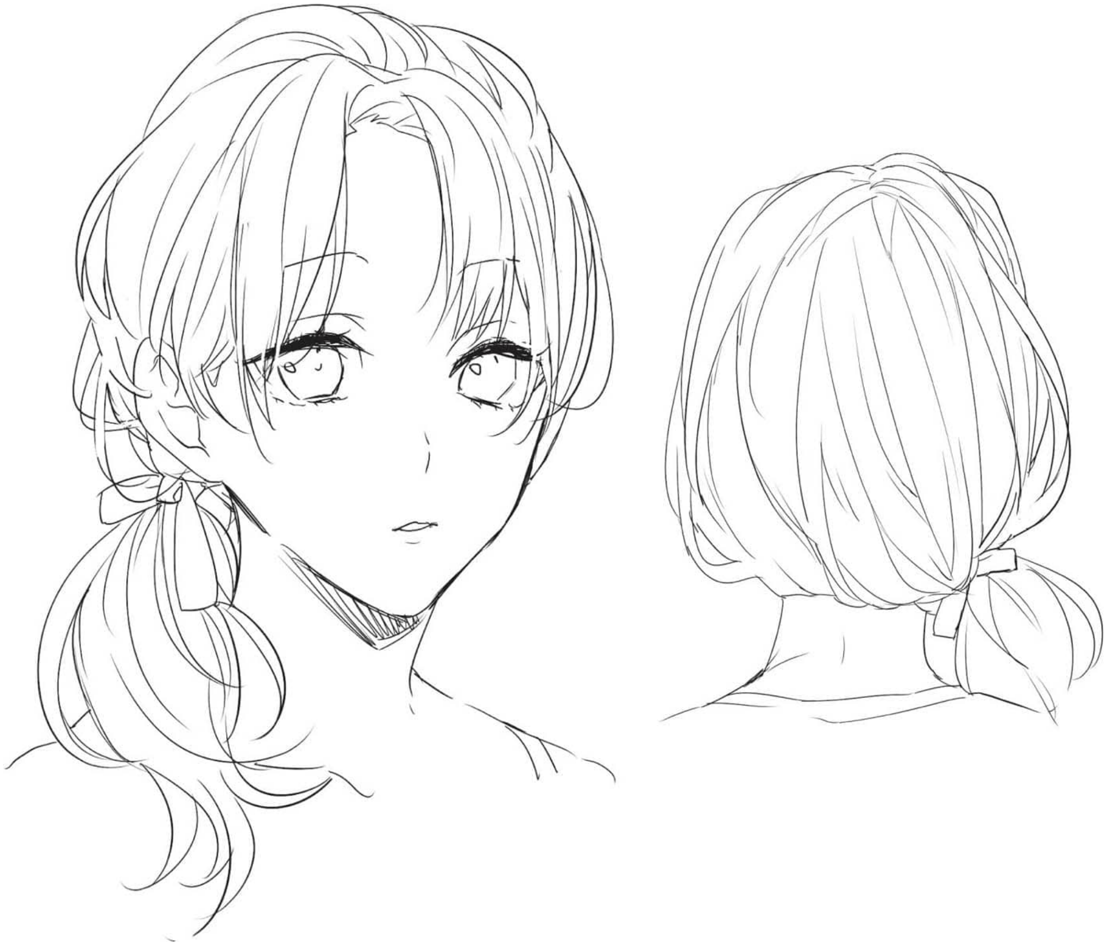
TIP
Even for a side ponytail, the top part of the gathered hair is higher than the tie itself.





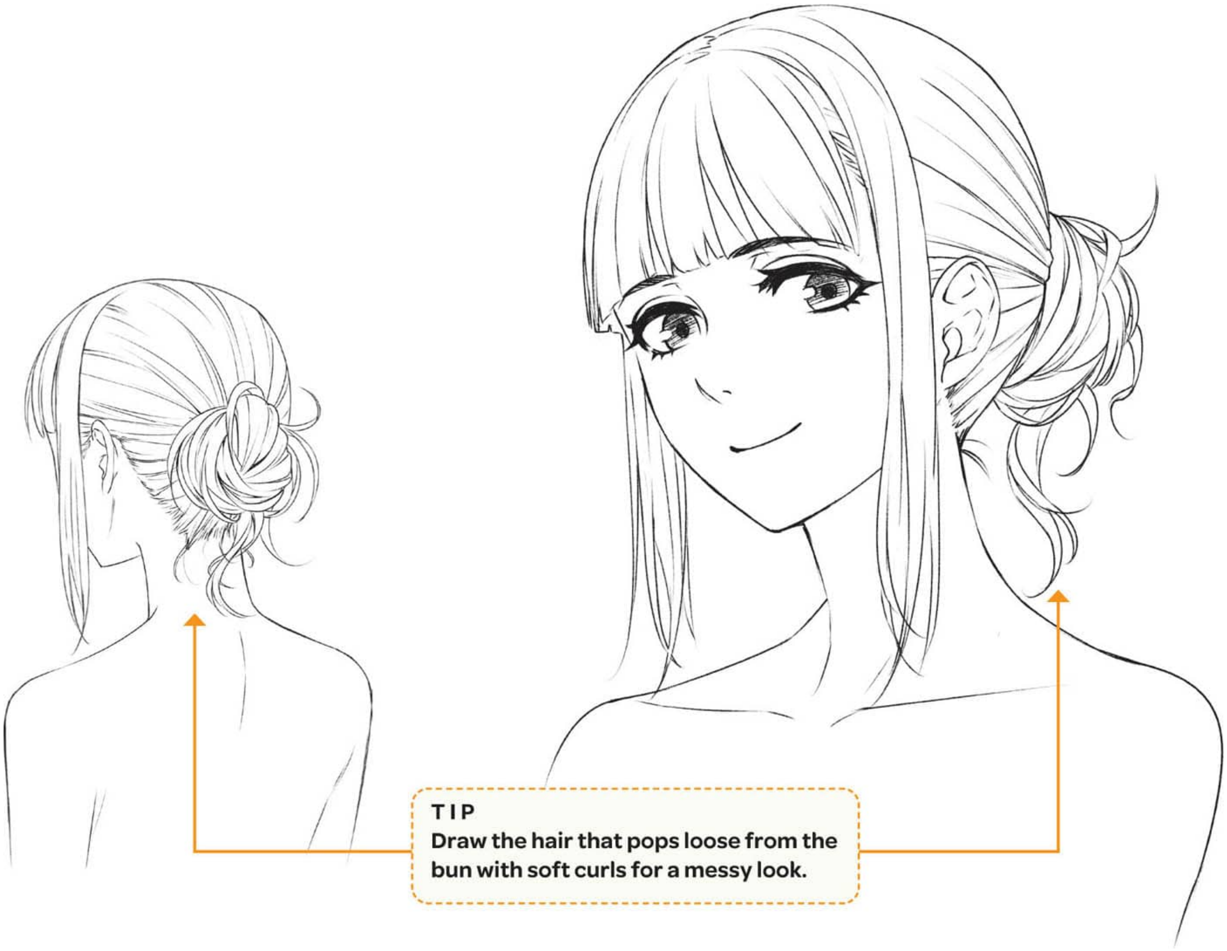
WAVY LONG HAIR, HIGH SIDE PONYTAIL

The side pony in this hairstyle is tied at a higher position for a playful look. The hair hanging from the ponytail has a gentle bend for a soft, wavy appearance.



MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, LOW SIDE PONYTAIL

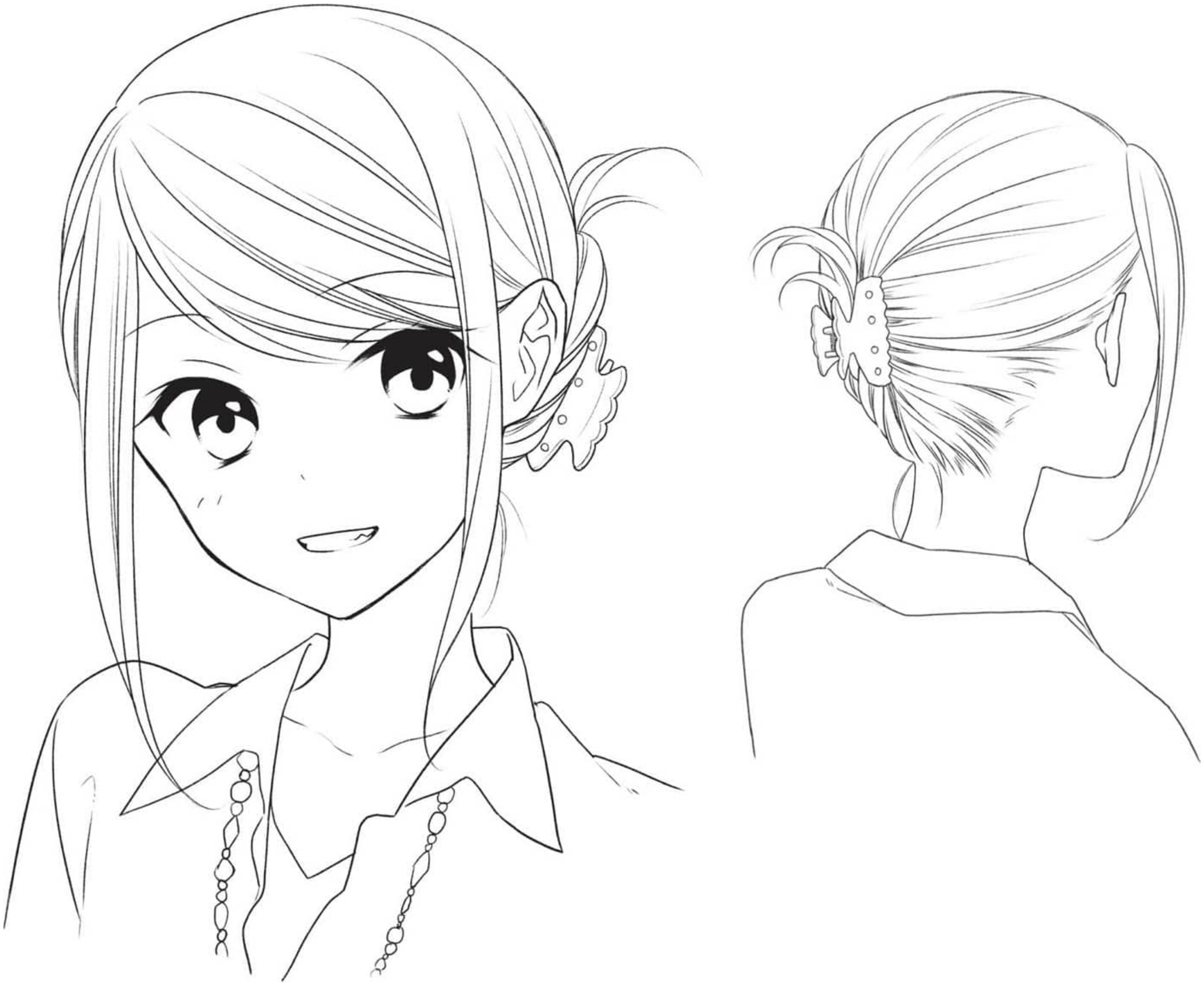
To give a side ponytail the appearance of being loose, draw the hair at the back with a sagging bend.



TIP
Draw the hair that pops loose from the bun with soft curls for a messy look.

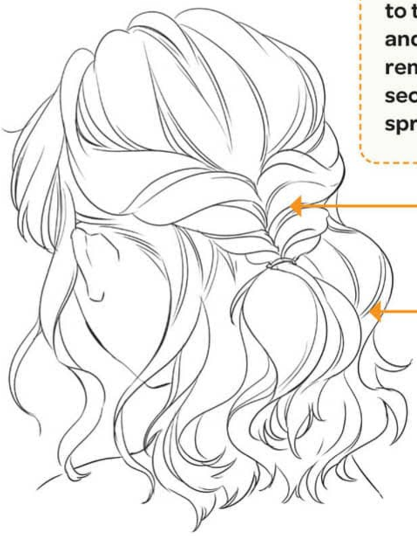
MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, LOW MESSY BUN

This updo features bundles of hair pulled into a ball near the back neckline. Shorter pieces have fallen loose from the bun to give this a less formal feel.

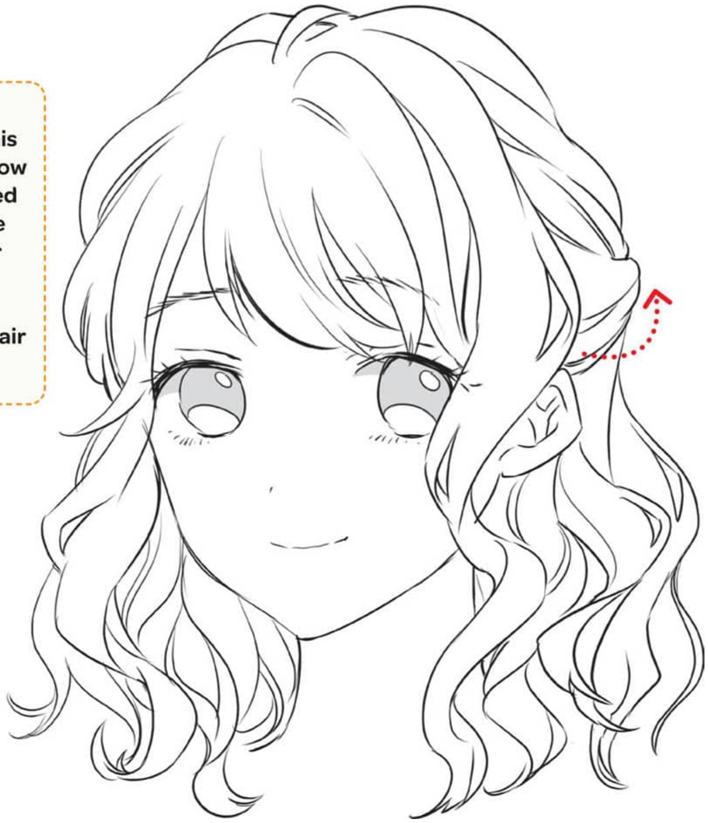


SHORT STRAIGHT HAIR, CLIPPED UP

This sleek style pulls the hair tight against the head. It’s twisted and clipped in place. The short, curled ends popping out the top of the clip suggest a shorter style when left loose.

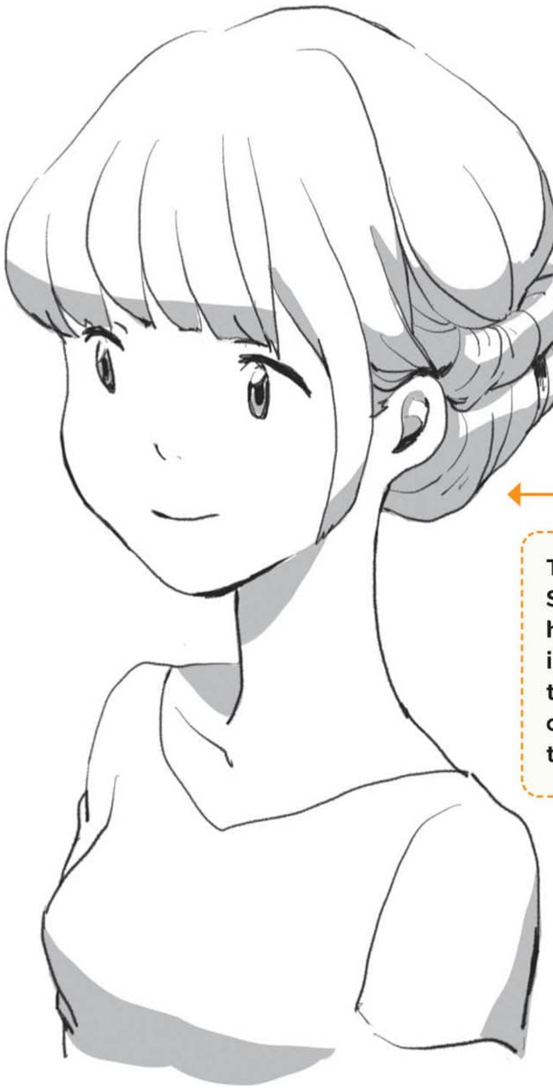


TIP
The key to this style is the flow of hair twisted from the side to the center and how the remaining sections of hair spread out.

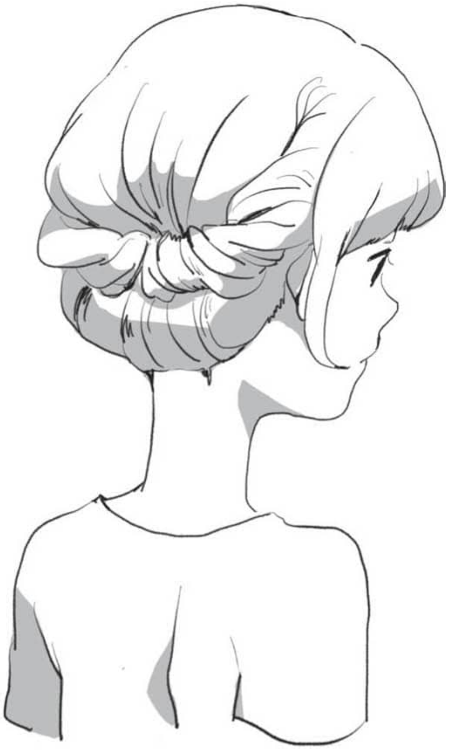


CURLY MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, SIDES PULLED BACK

Here, the hair behind the ears is half-up and gathered into a twist. Seen from the front, the hair appears to flow from the hairline to the back of the head.

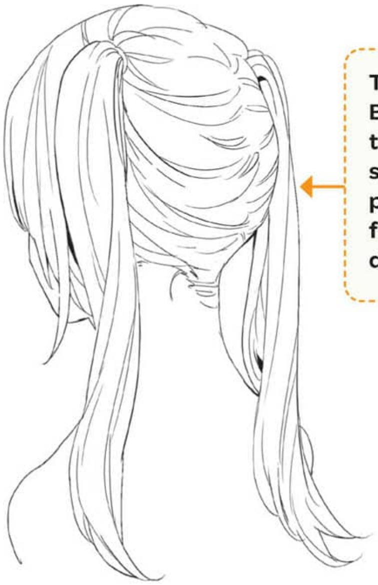


TIP
Since the back hair is gathered in one place, there is volume on the back of the head.

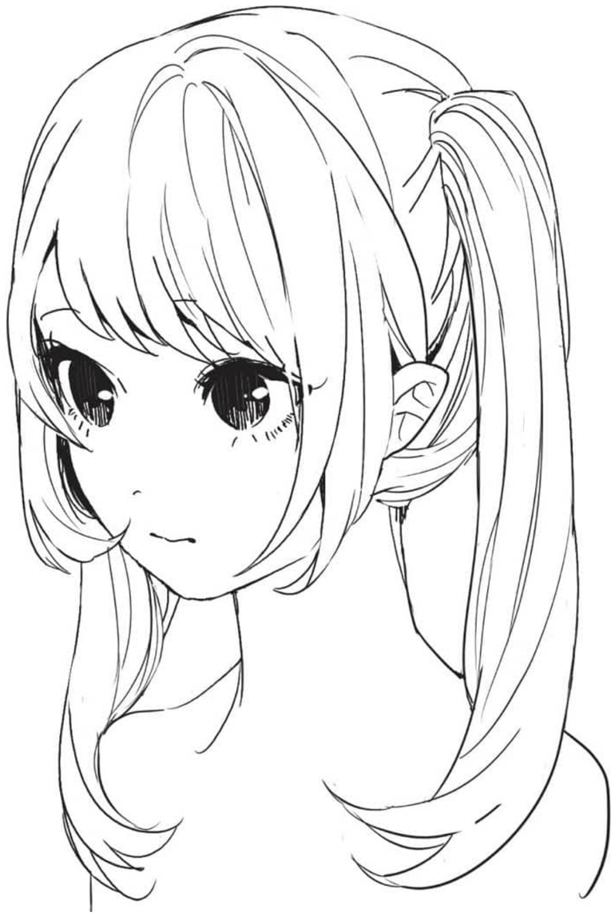


FULL SOFT HAIR, LOW TWIST

With minimal lines drawn for sections of hair, this style appears to be full and soft. The bulk of the hair is gathered into a low horizontal twist at the back neckline.

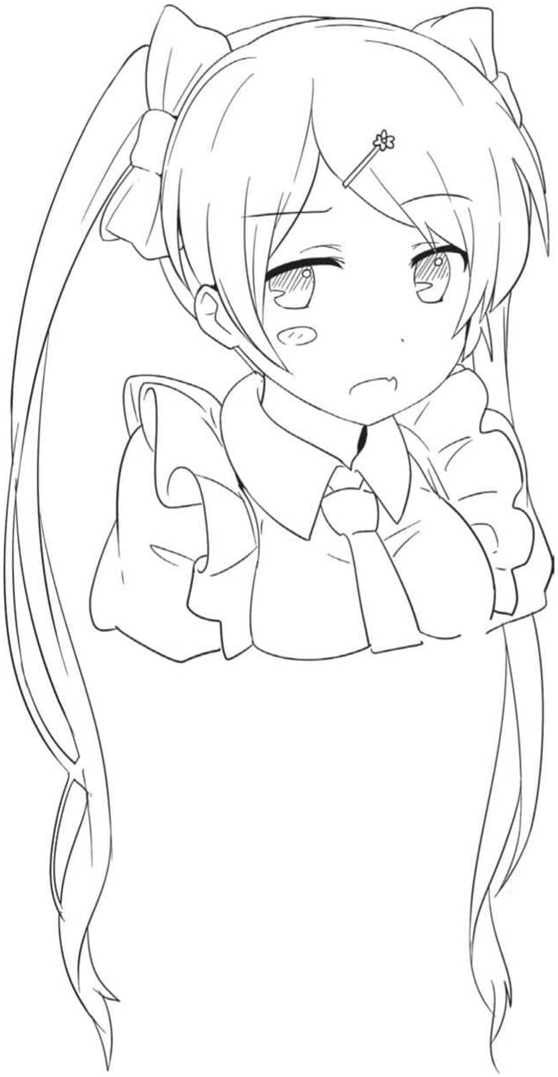


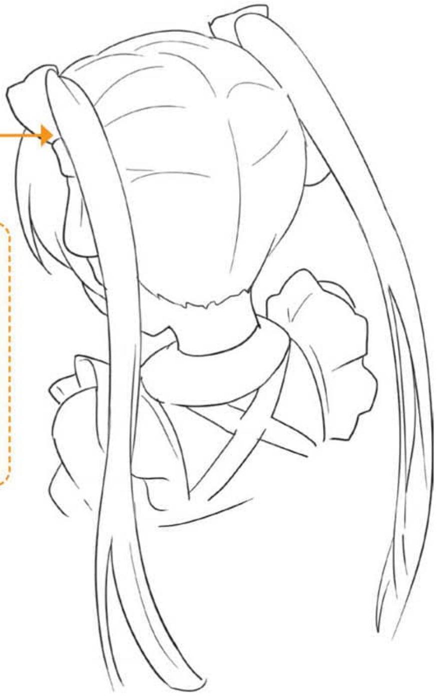
TIP
Because the hair is straight, the ponytail hair falls directly down.



STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, TWIN PONYTAILS

The ends of the twin gathers of hair and side bangs are lightly curled inward to frame the character’s face.

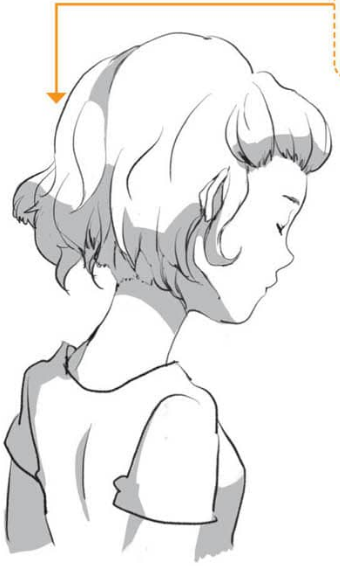




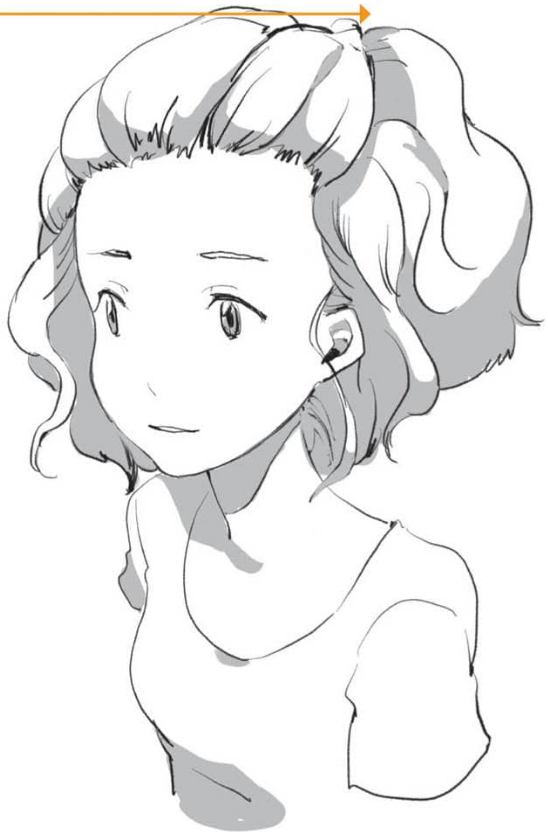
TIP
The ribbon is fastened to the front of the bundled hair, so the hair bundle is hanging backward.

SUPER-LONG HAIR, TWIN PONYTAILS WITH BOWS

The fine, straight texture of this character’s hair is emphasized by the thinness of the ponytails. Add a large bow to each ponytail to create a youthful impression.

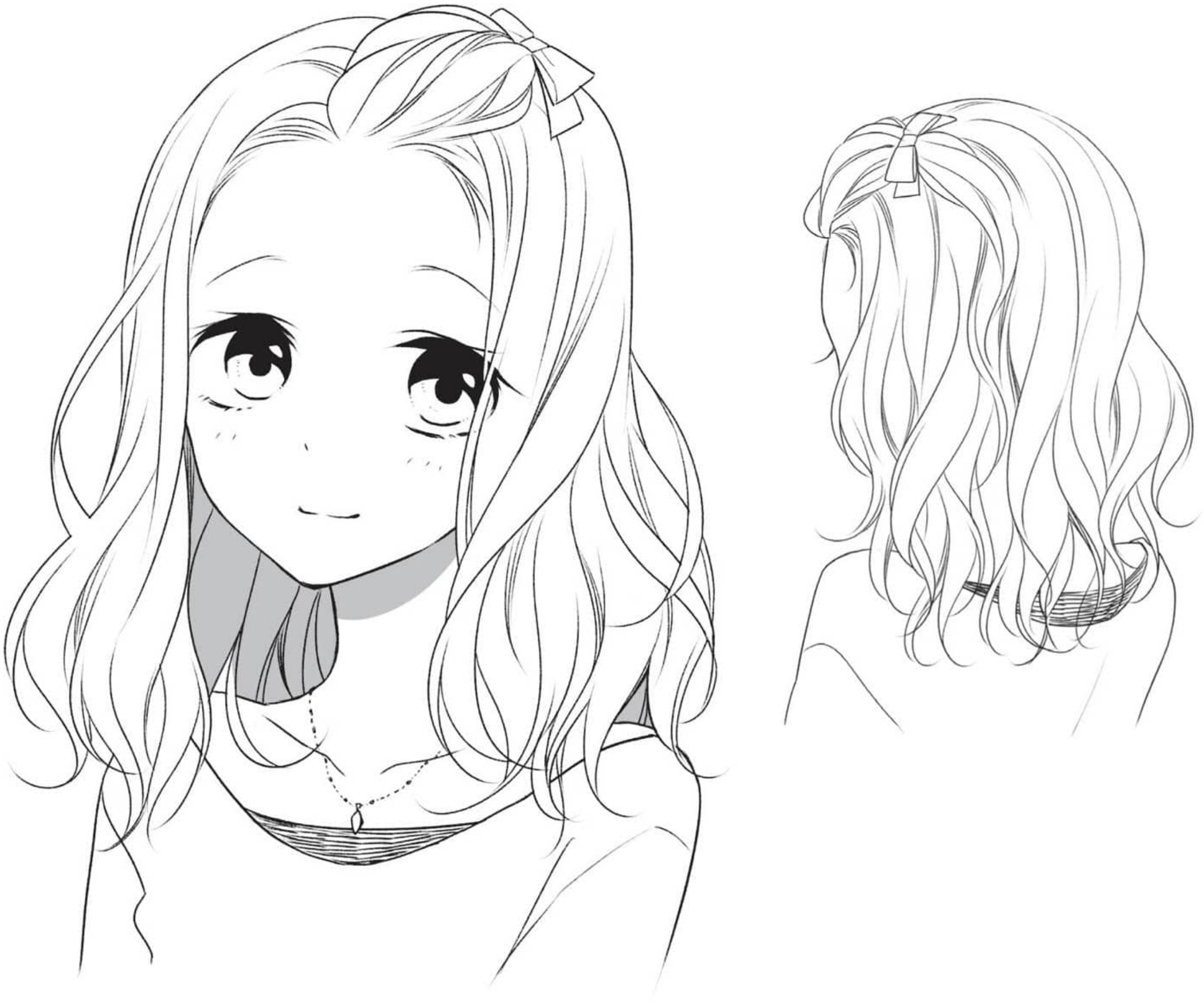


TIP
Add volume to the back and side sections of hair for a full, soft look.



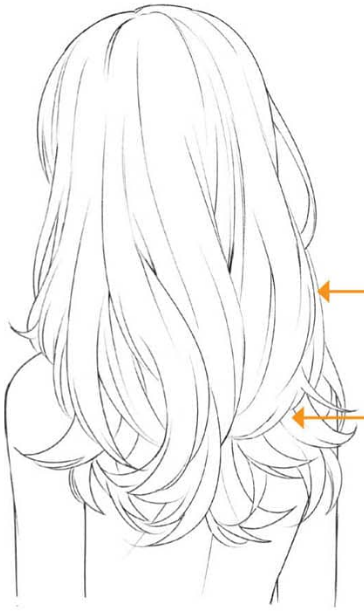
WAVY SHORT HAIR, BANGS PULLED BACK

Adding volume to the raised bangs shows off the face and hairline. The slight bend in each section suggests a subtle wave.

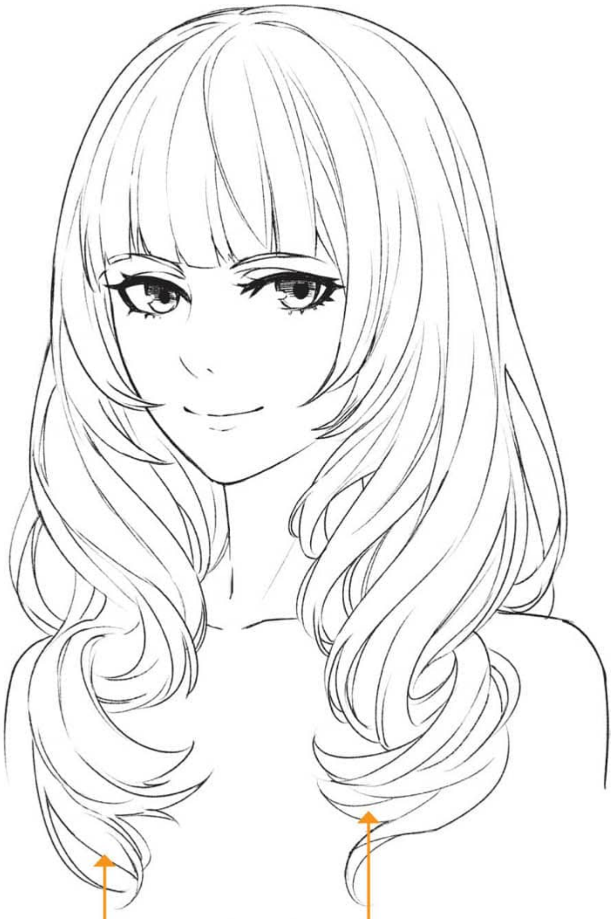


MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, BANGS PULLED BACK

In this hairstyle, the bangs have been pulled back diagonally and tied with a ribbon. The side sections flow down around the face with gentle waves at the ends.



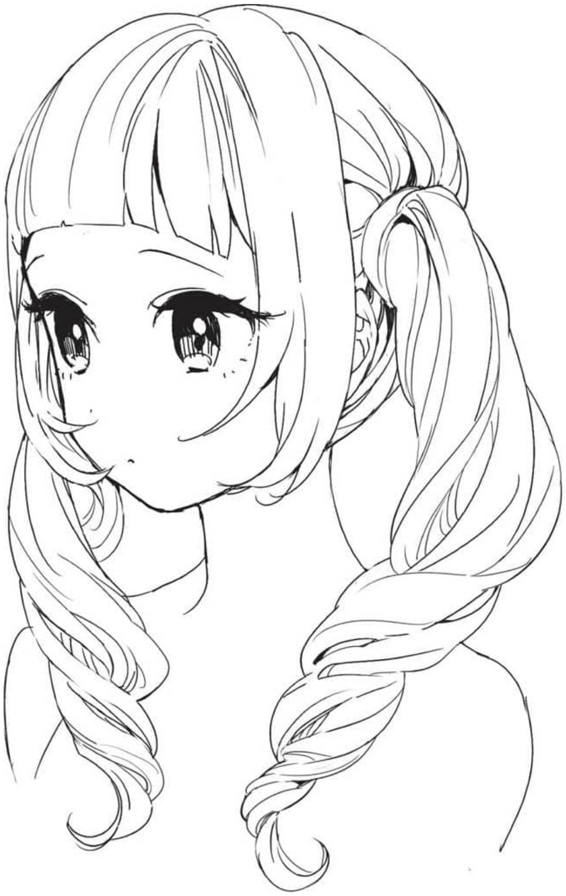
TIP
The flowing hair extending from the top of the head is layered, which adds bouncy and fuller texture.

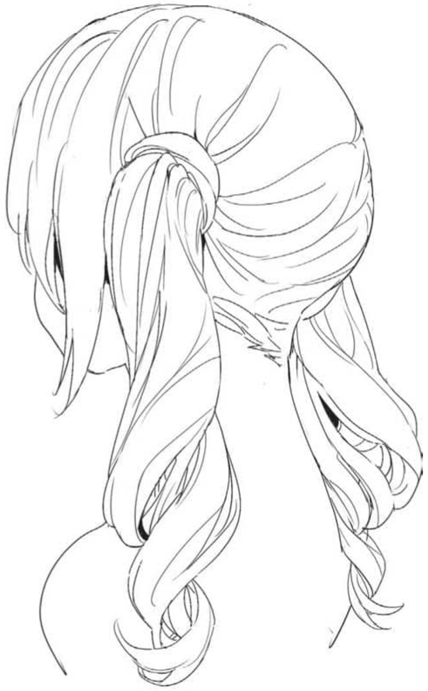


TIP
The layers around the face curl inward and frame the face.

STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, LAYERS

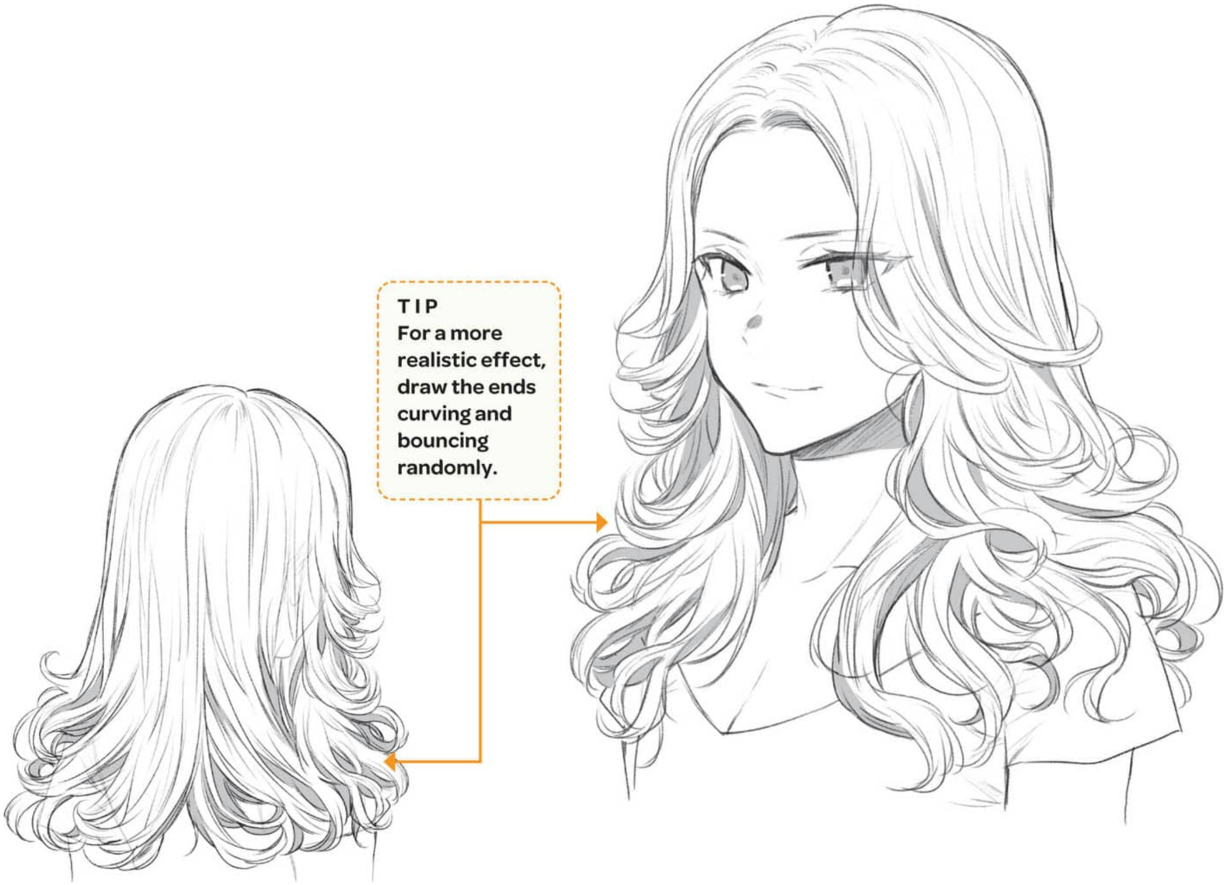
In this hairstyle, hair has been cut into different, staggered lengths called layers. Each layer is curled slightly for a fuller effect.





CURLY LONG HAIR, TWIN PONYTAILS

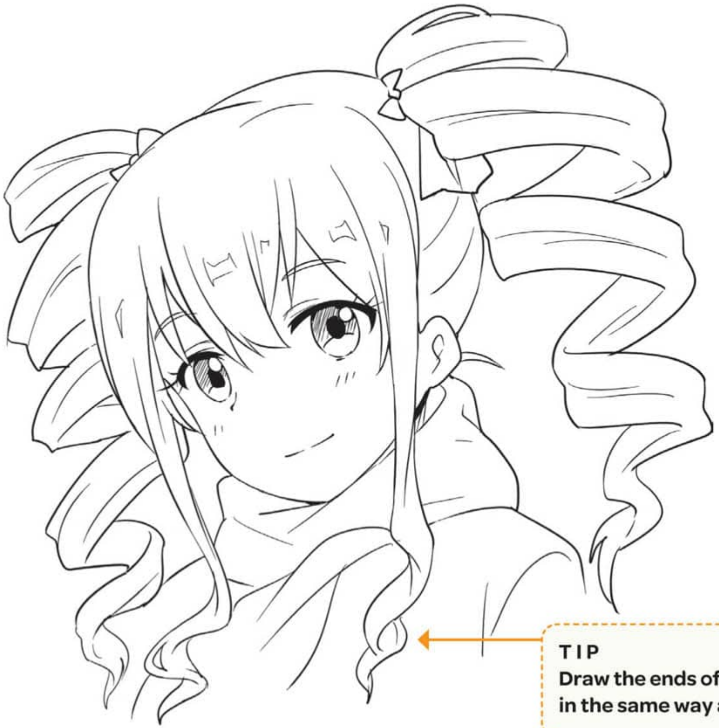
Here, long ponytails have been coiled into one large curl on each side. They coil inward drawing attention toward the face.



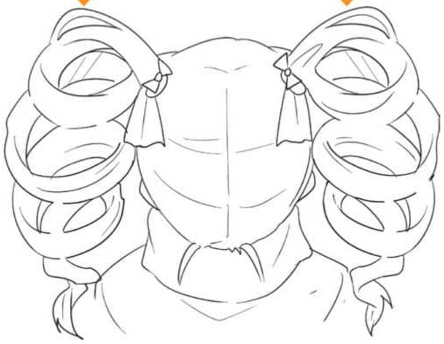
TIP
For a more realistic effect, draw the ends curving and bouncing randomly.

WAVY LONG HAIR, LAYERS

Similar to the straight hair with layers, wavy hair can be cut with layers as well. The ends of the hair are drawn with irregular S-curves to emphasize the texture of the waves.



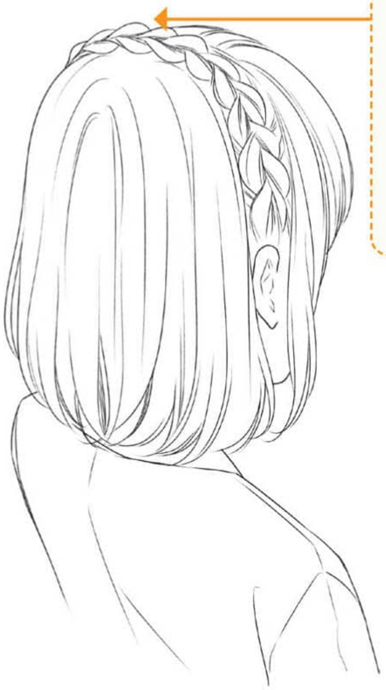
TIP
Draw the ends of the side bangs curled in the same way as the ponytails.



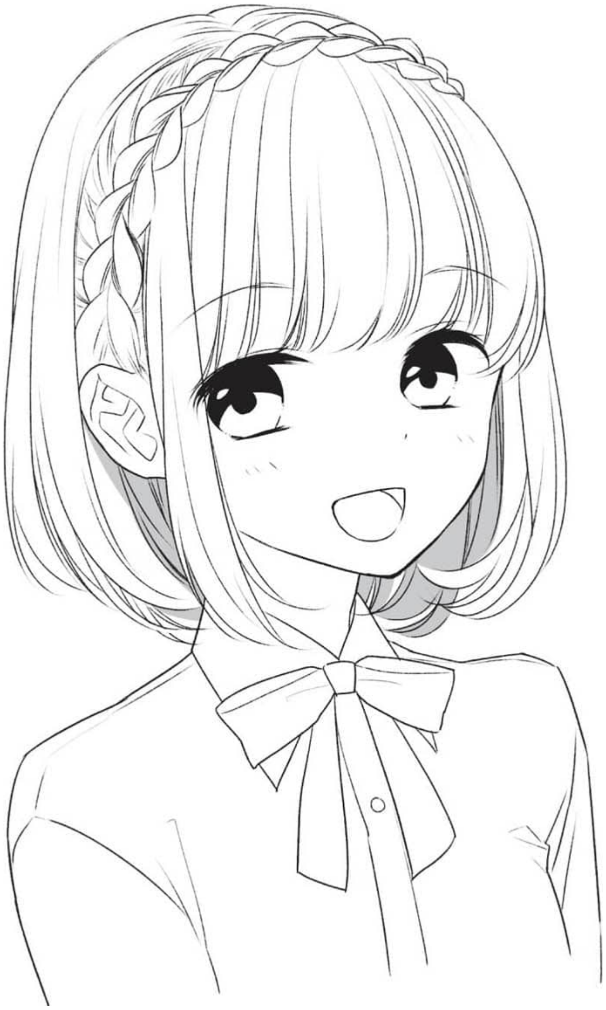
TIP
Carefully drawing and erasing lines where the hair intersects creates the coiled effect.

EXAGGERATED TWIN PONYTAILS

These giant spring-like coiled ponytails may look like an impossible hairstyle, but you can imply a sense of gravity by making the curls smaller toward the ends of the hair.

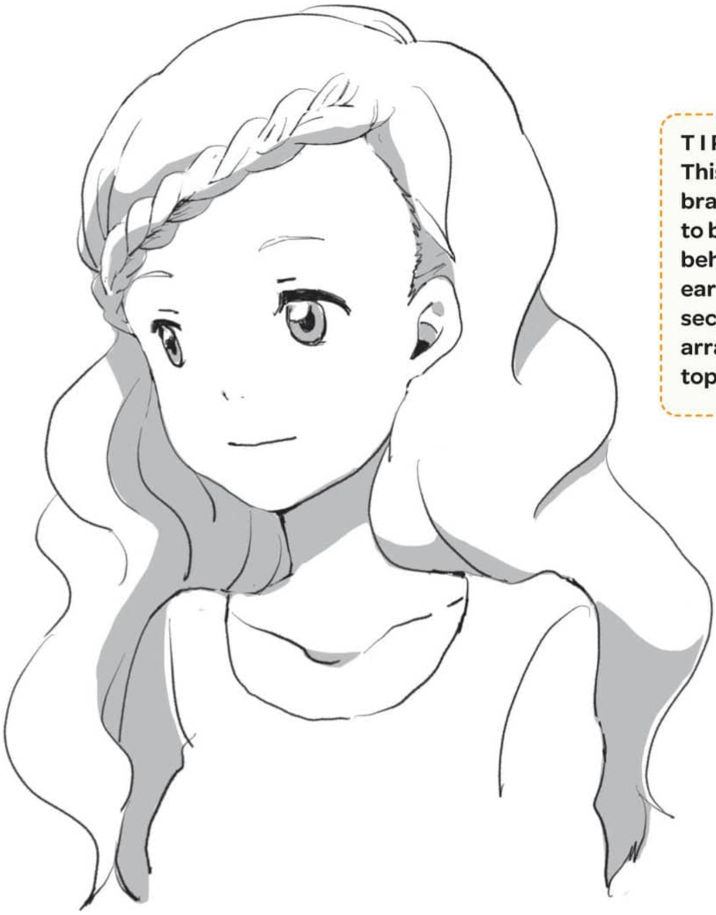


TIP
If you draw the braid outside the outline of the hair, it will look three-dimensional.

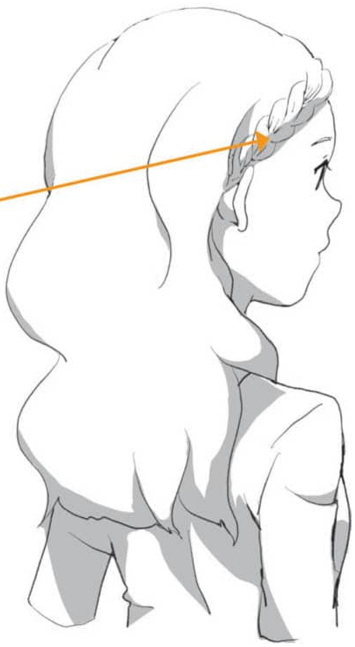


SHORT HAIR, BRAIDED HEADBAND

In this example, a French braid is used to create a headband that holds much of the hair back. It is braided from behind the ear, across the top of the head, and down the opposite side.

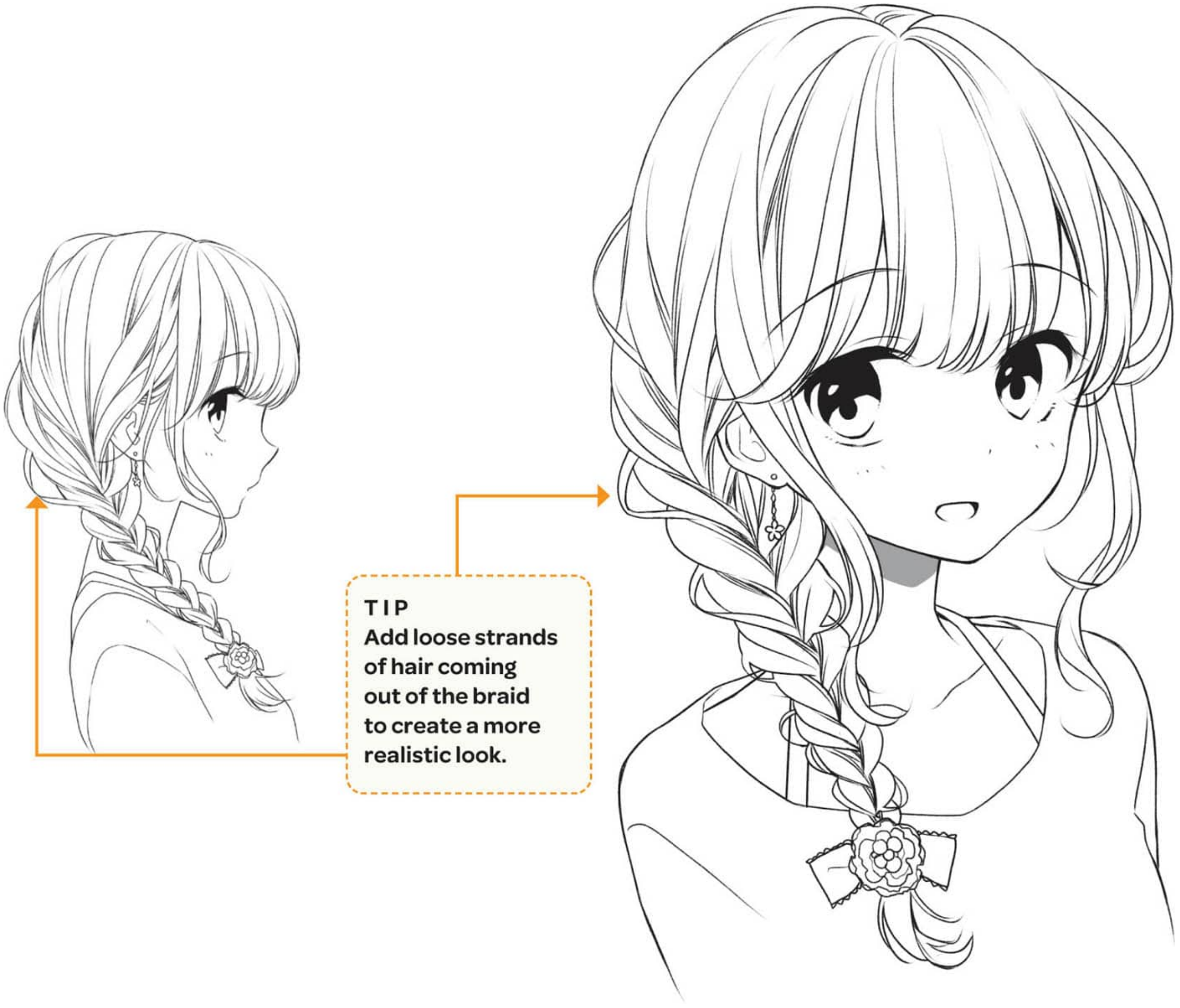


TIP
This French braid appears to be tucked behind the ear with a side section of hair arranged on top.



SOFT WAVY HAIR, BRAIDED BANGS

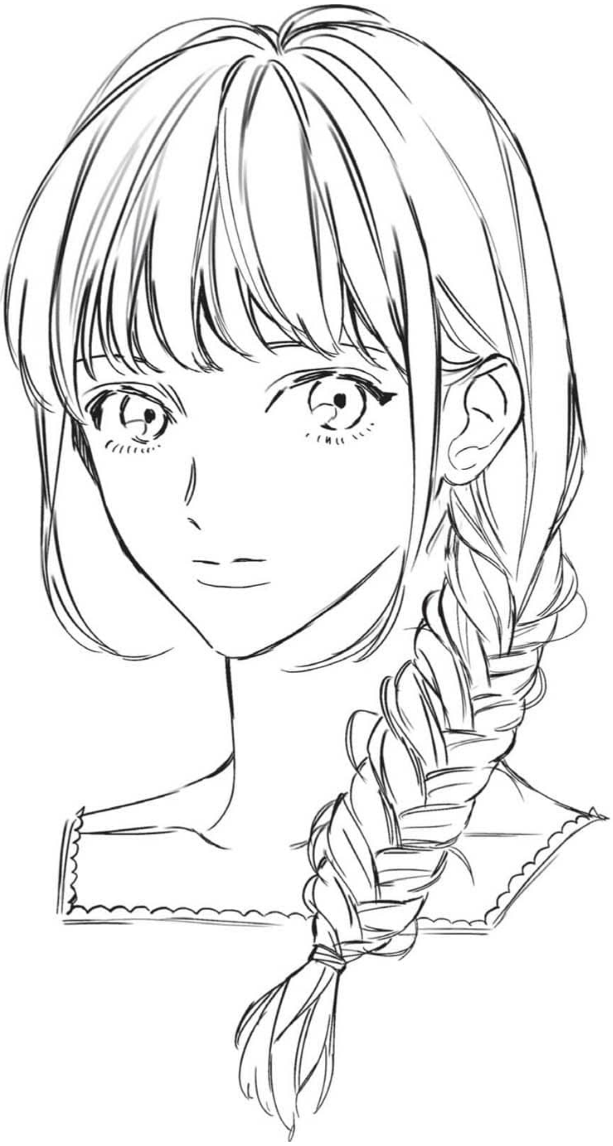
French-braided bangs create an interesting look for feminine characters. The braid starts on one side, moves across the forehead, and ends behind the ear where it is tucked and pinned.

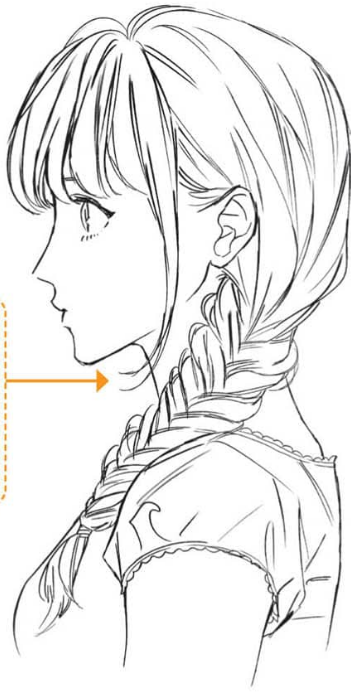


TIP
Add loose strands of hair coming out of the braid to create a more realistic look.

STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, SIDE BRAID

A braid positioned on one side will start thicker at the top near the head and become thinner as it reaches the end where there is less hair being incorporated.

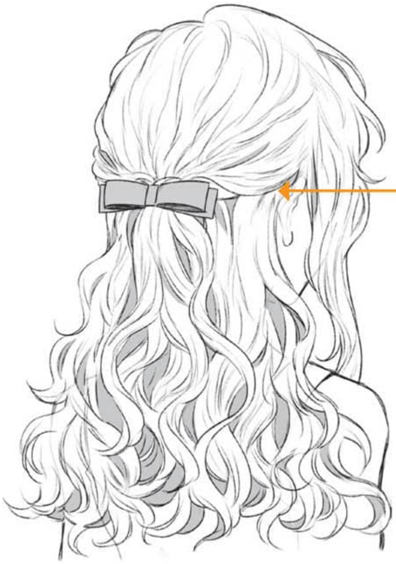




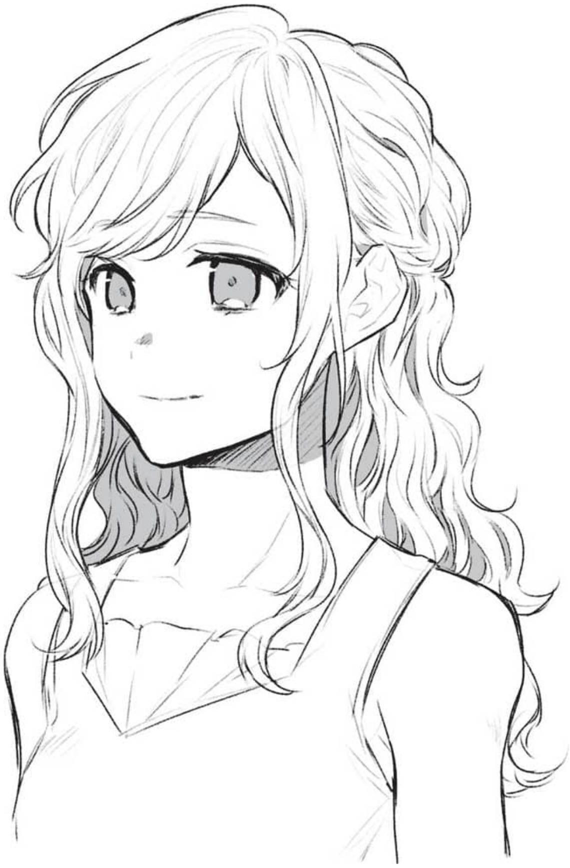
TIP
Curling the side hairs inward helps frame the face.

STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, THICK SIDE BRAID

For this character, the side braid doesn't narrow as much toward the end. This implies that the hair is thick.

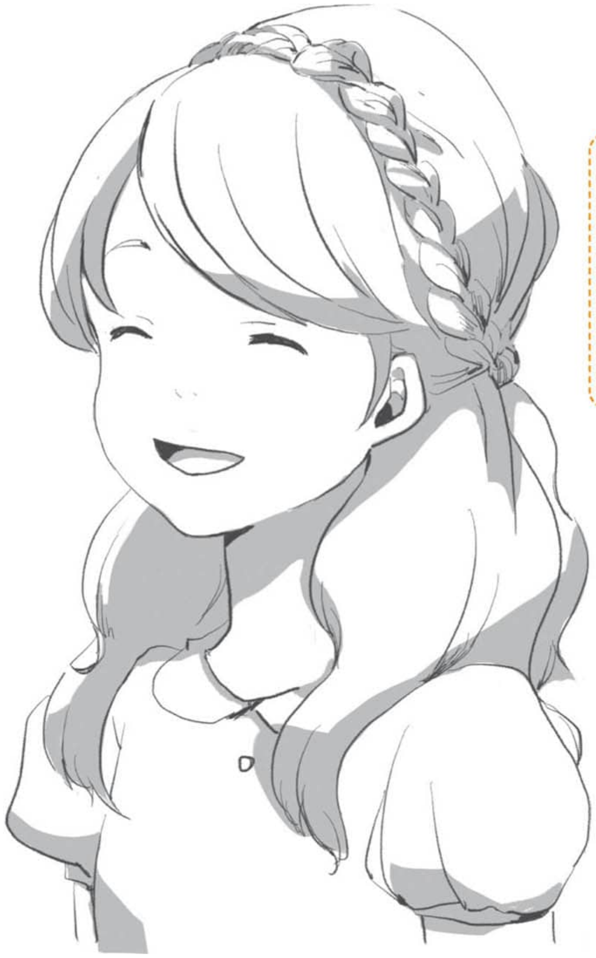


TIP
The hair bundled on the back overlaps and becomes three-dimensional.

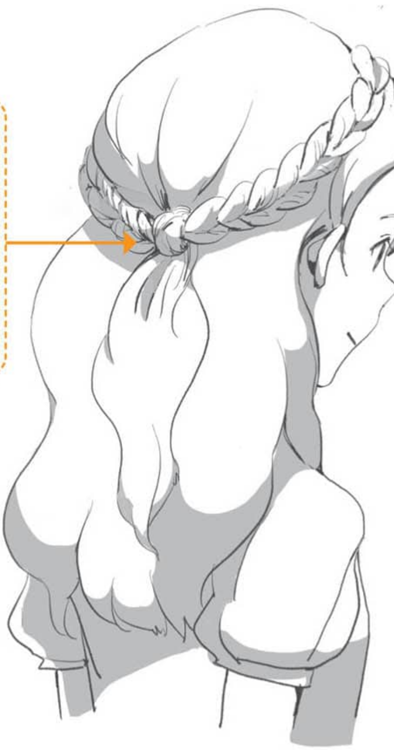


CURLY LONG HAIR, HALF UP

Half-up hair with a wavy texture will have long S-curves drawn from the head to the ends. Here, a bow ties the hair back, which will make that area of the hair thicker with wider sections.



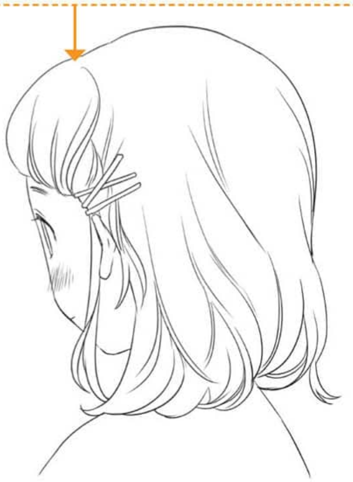
TIP
In this look, the hair is drawn in a knot at ear level where the braids are joined together.



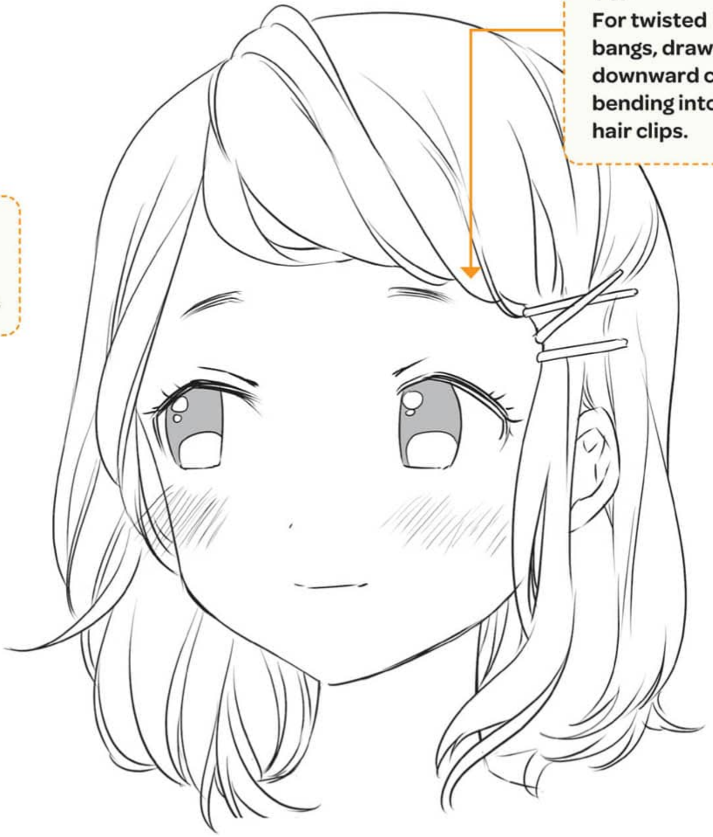
SOFT WAVY HAIR, BRAIDED CROWN

Sides sections of hair have been braided and joined together in the back to form a crown-like look. The outline of the hair is larger than the head to add to the full texture.

TIP
The key to creating a three-dimensional effect is to draw a line of hair extending from the edge of the bangs into the twist.

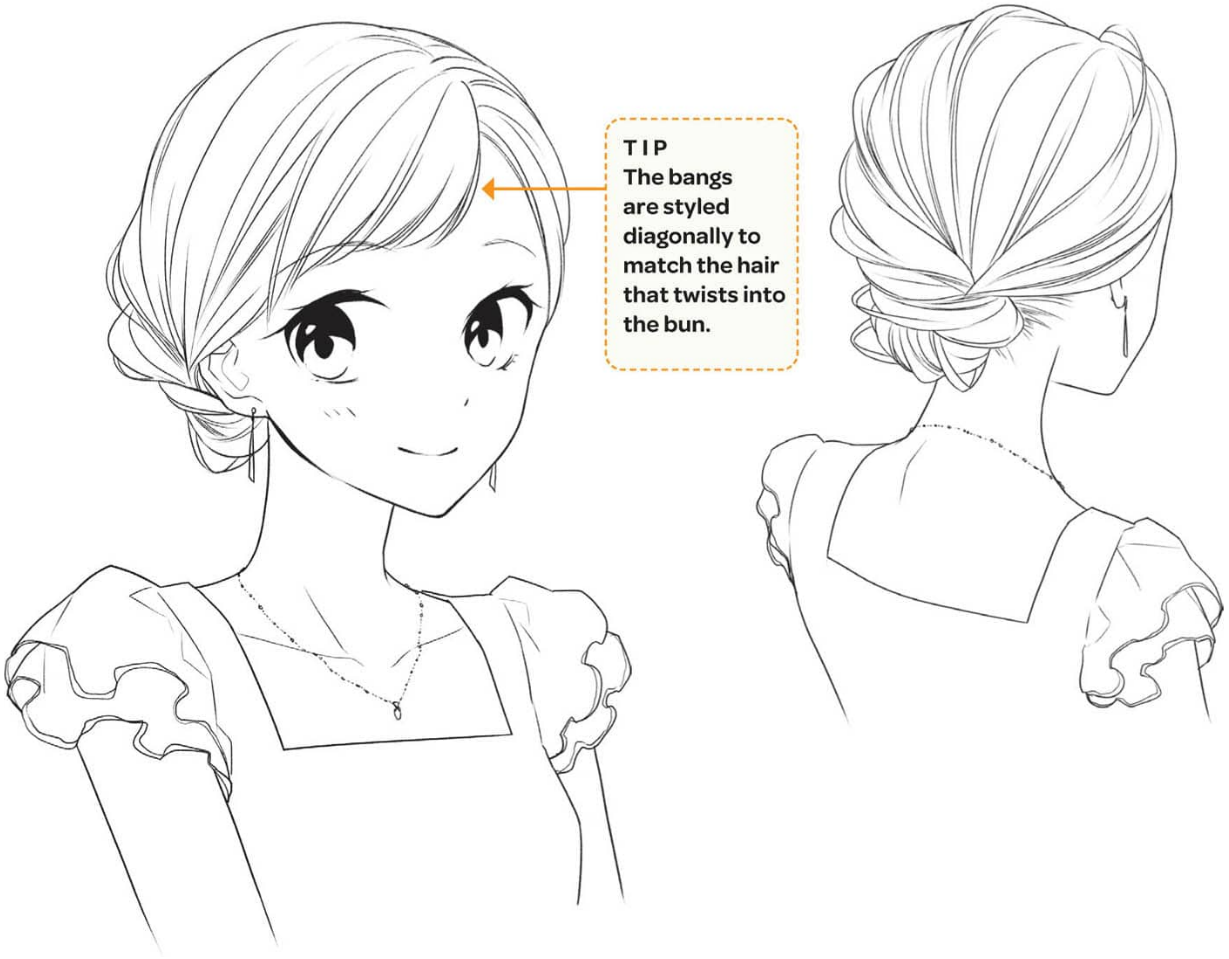


TIP
For twisted bangs, draw a downward curve bending into the hair clips.



SHORT HAIR, TWISTED BANGS

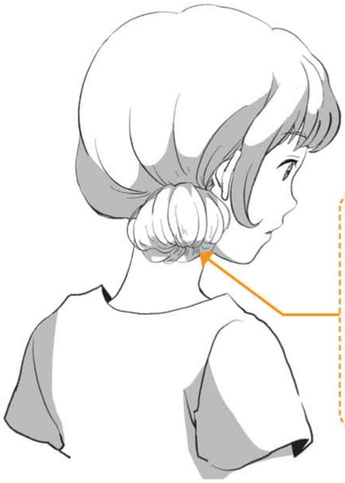
The bangs are twisted inward and fastened with hairpins in this unique hairstyle. Height is added to the bangs on the left, near the part, to accentuate the twist.



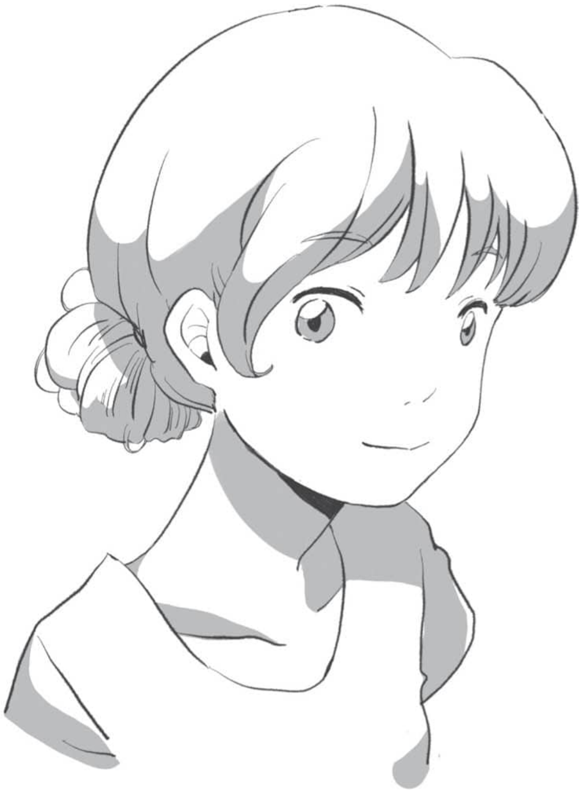
TIP
The bangs are styled diagonally to match the hair that twists into the bun.

STRAIGHT HAIR, TWISTED BUN

This hairstyle features hair bundled into a low bun that's been twisted and pinned in place. Draw the flow of twisted hair toward the center of the bun for a three-dimensional effect.

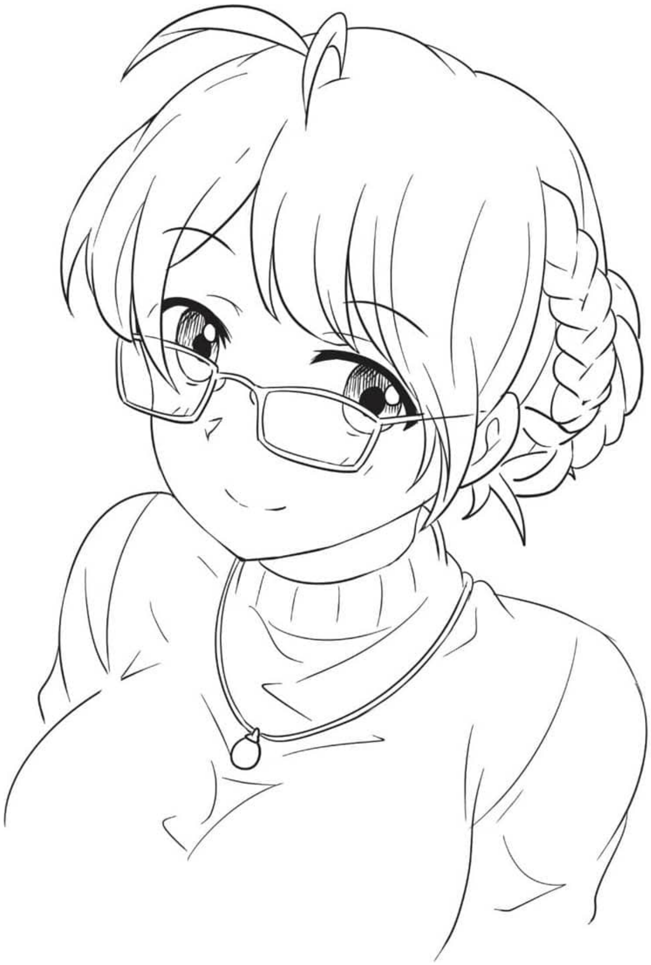


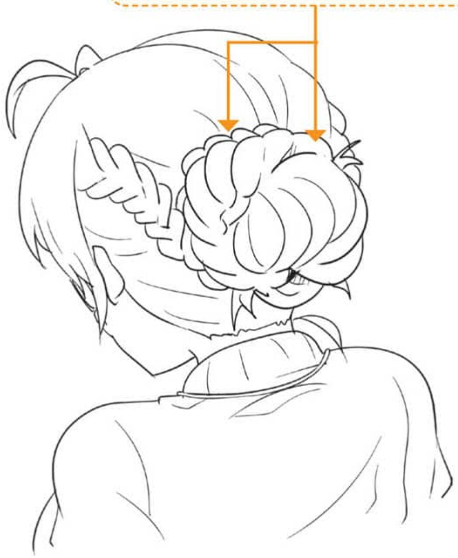
TIP
Create a unique bun by drawing the hairs flowing into the center all the way around.



SOFT HAIR, LOW SIDE BUN

With very few lines drawn for sections of hair, this hairstyle appears to be very full and soft. The hair is gathered into a low bun positioned tight behind the ear.

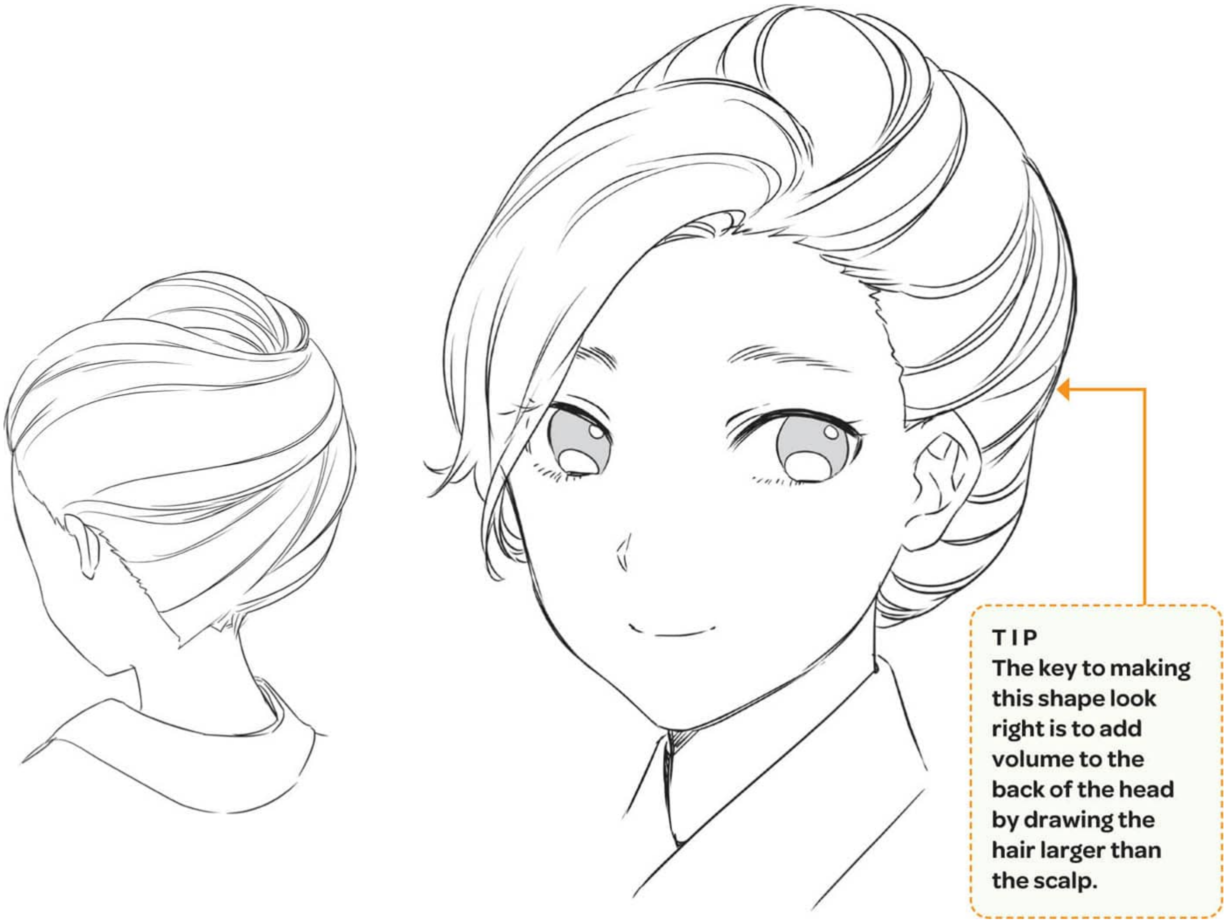




TIP
Add to the three-dimensional effect by drawing fluffy sections of hair that pop out around the bun.

STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, BRAIDED BUN

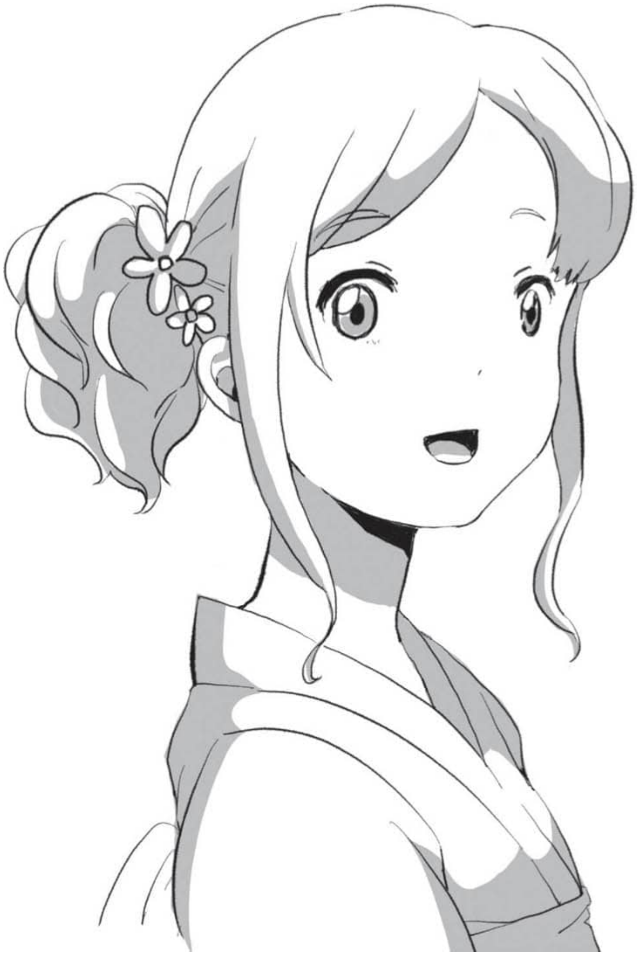
For characters with long hair, it can be fun to combine styles. Here, the hair is braided and then wrapped into a large bun.

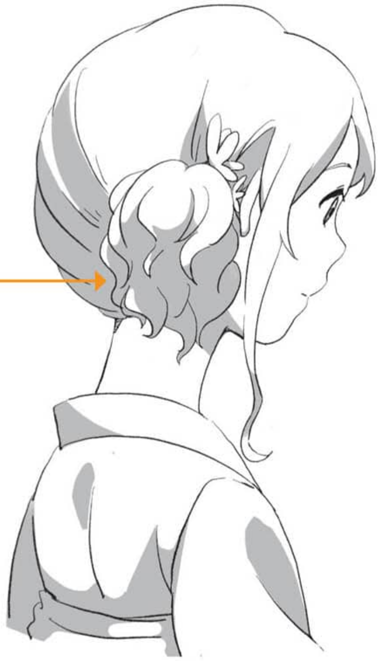


TIP
The key to making this shape look right is to add volume to the back of the head by drawing the hair larger than the scalp.

STRAIGHT HAIR, FRENCH TWIST

This style is great for a formal evening look. All the side hair and back hair is wrapped and pinned into a French twist. The bangs are left loose and swept to the side.

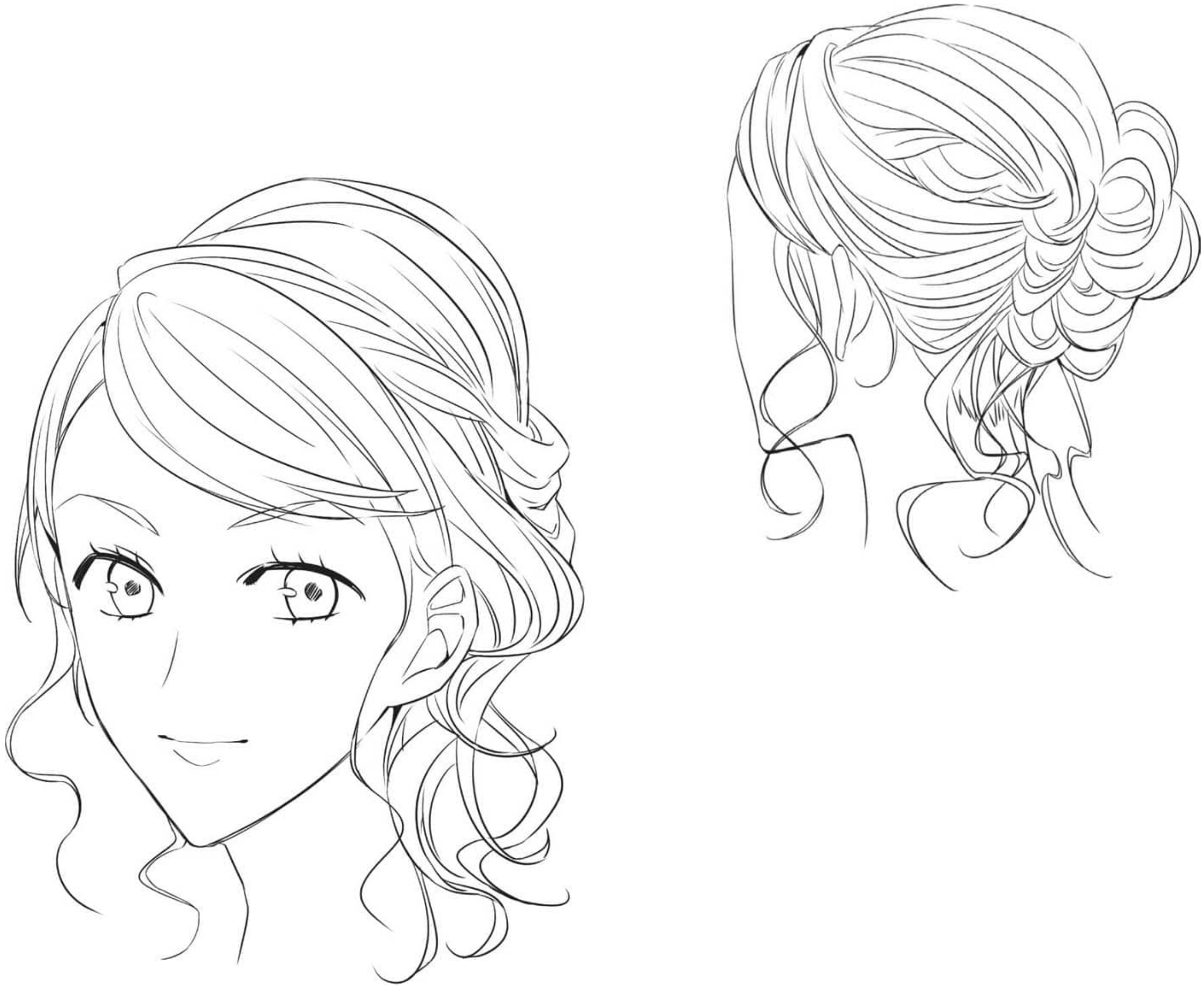




TIP
Suggest wavy hair by creating volume in the ponytail and curling the ends.

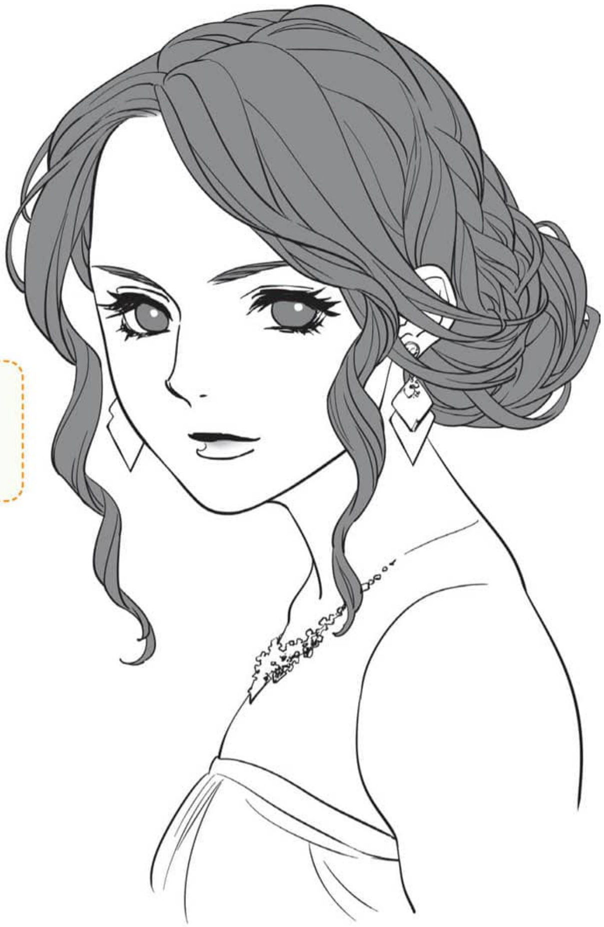
SOFT WAVY HAIR, SIDE PONYTAIL

This hairstyle for short wavy hair is embellished with a decorative hair tie. The curve in the hair of the ponytail implies this is wavy hair.



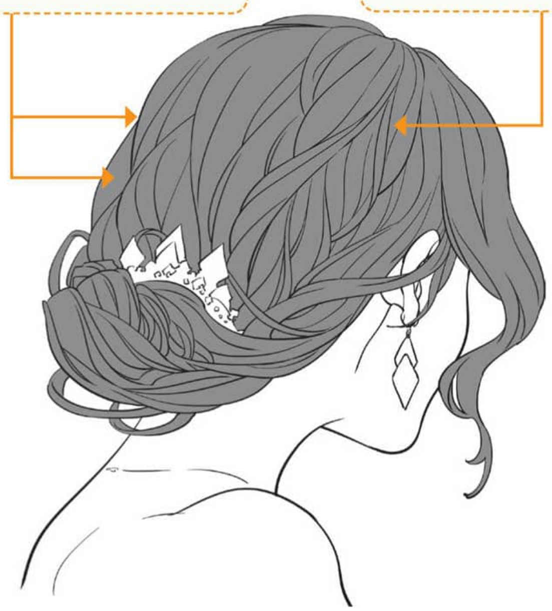
WAVY MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, UPDO

Women’s hair is often styled into updos for special occasions and formal events. Here, wavy strands of hair are drawn loose from the updo to create a softer appearance.



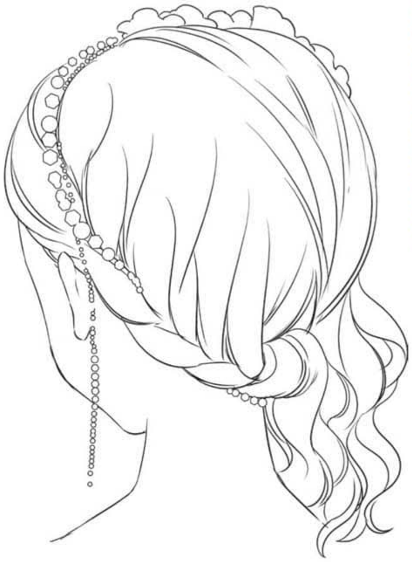
TIP
Add the feeling of volume by overlapping sections of hair.

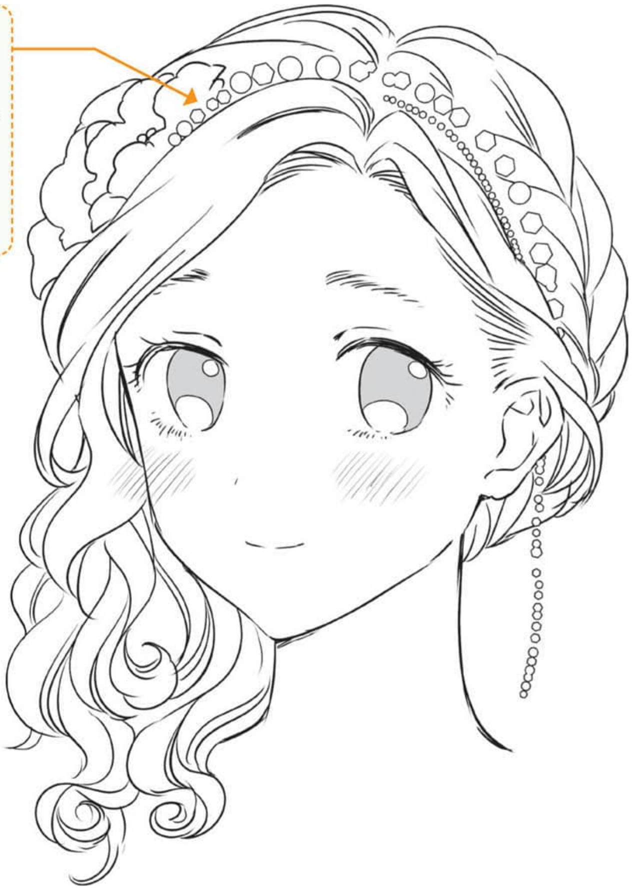
TIP
Loosely braided sections of hair add interest to this style.



CURLY LONG HAIR, UPDO

In this formal hairstyle, hair is loosely braided in various places before being gathered into a low bun. To add interest, a decorative comb is tucked into the back of the hair.

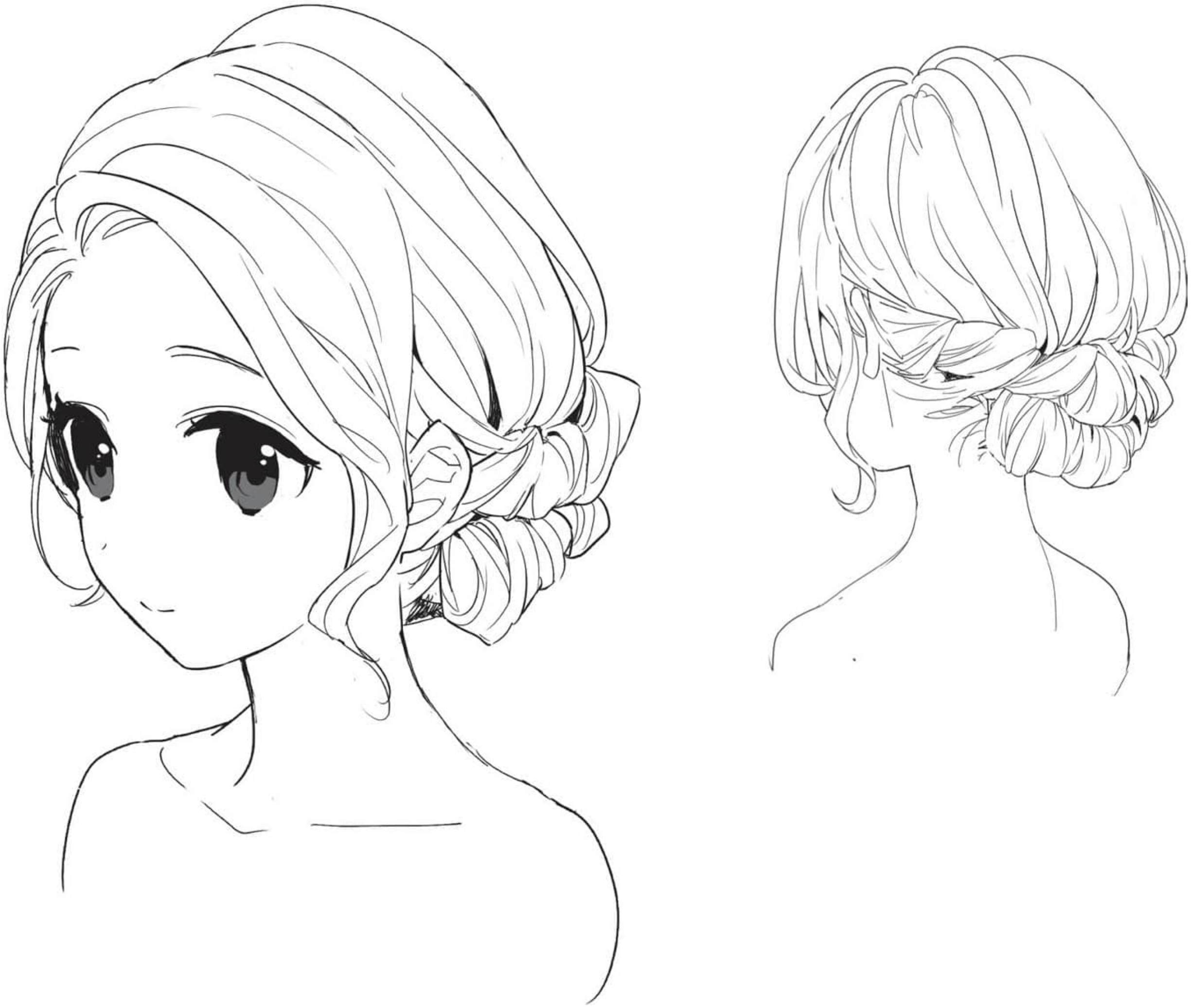




TIP
Add beaded and floral embellishments for special events like weddings or formal parties.

CURLY MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, BRAIDED HALF-UPDO

This formal look features a French braid that starts on one side of the head and extends across the back. The remaining hair is loosely swept forward over the shoulder.



STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, SIDE PART, TWISTED UPDO

All of this character’s hair has been gathered and twisted into a horizontal bundle at the back of the head. The bangs are styled high in the front and curl down around the face.

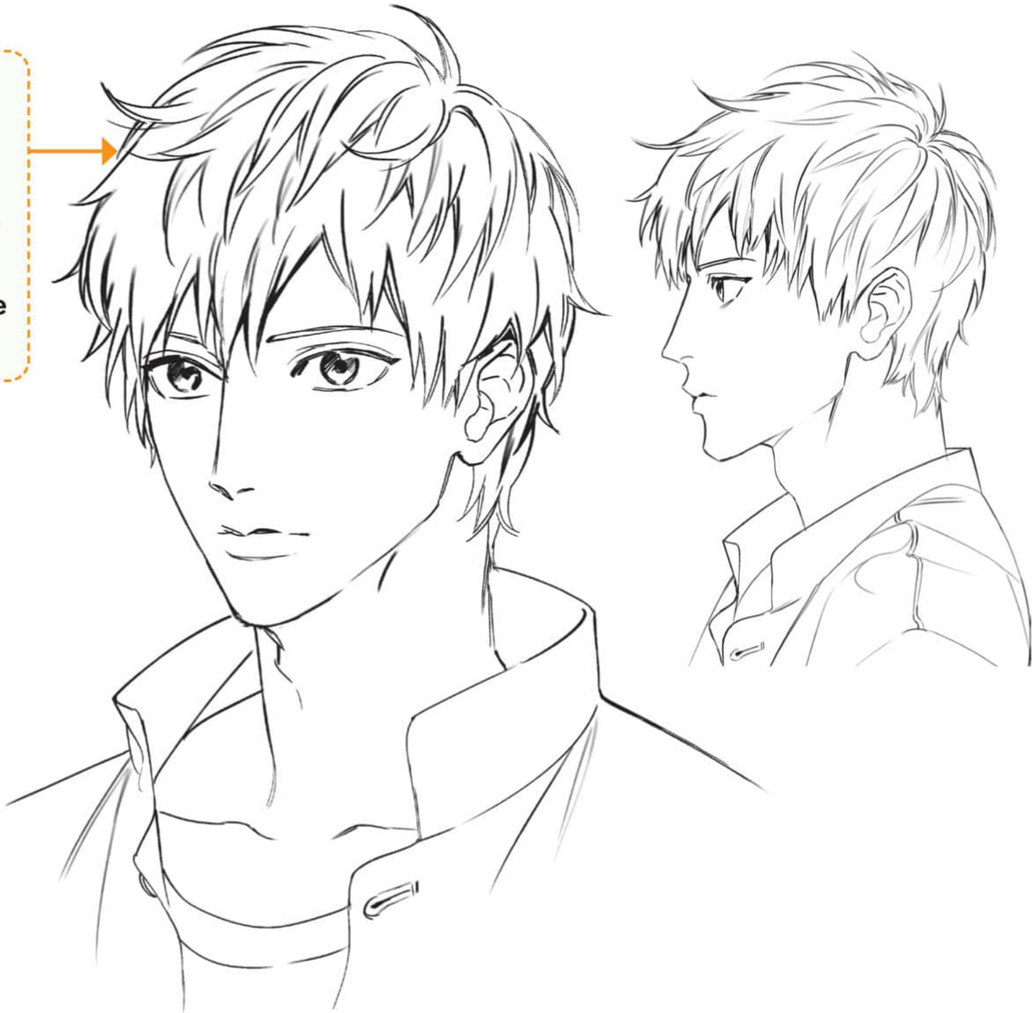
Male Hairstyles

Although men typically wear their hair short, men’s hairstyles can be just as varied as women’s. Here, you’ll discover a variety of male styles to inspire your drawings.

Short Hair

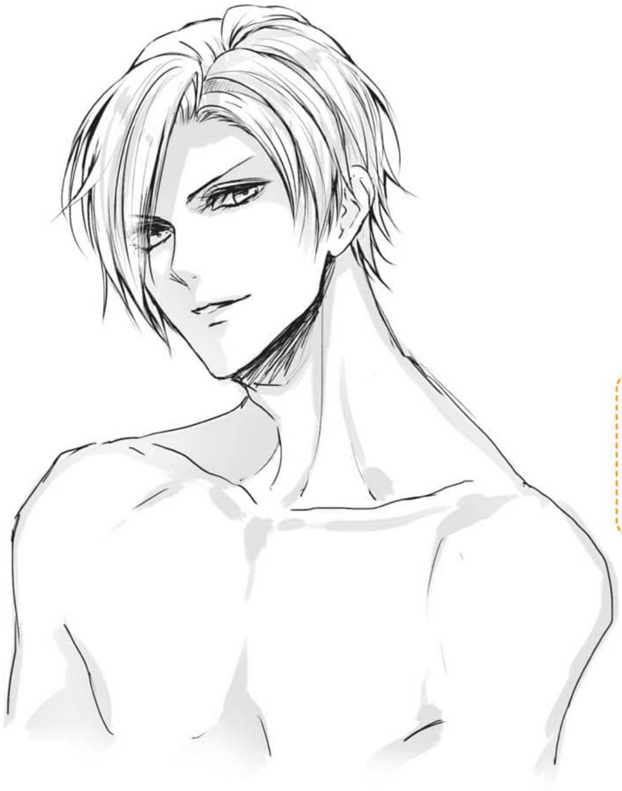
For male characters with short hair, the hair around the neckline is typically clipped close the back of the head and you can see the nape of the neck. It’s how you draw the ends of the hair that set these styles apart.

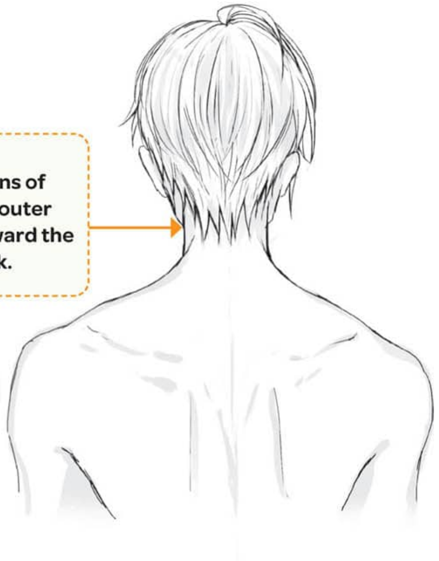
TIP
Draw the upper hair flow from the whorl so that it rests on top of the lower hair.



SHORT HAIR, NO PART

Without a visible part, this hairstyle is drawn with sections of hair growing out from the crown of the head. The jagged ends imply thick, textured hair.

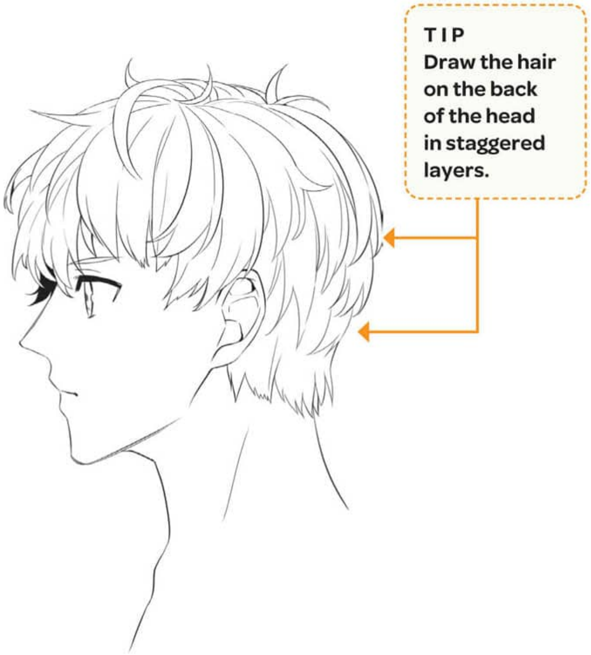




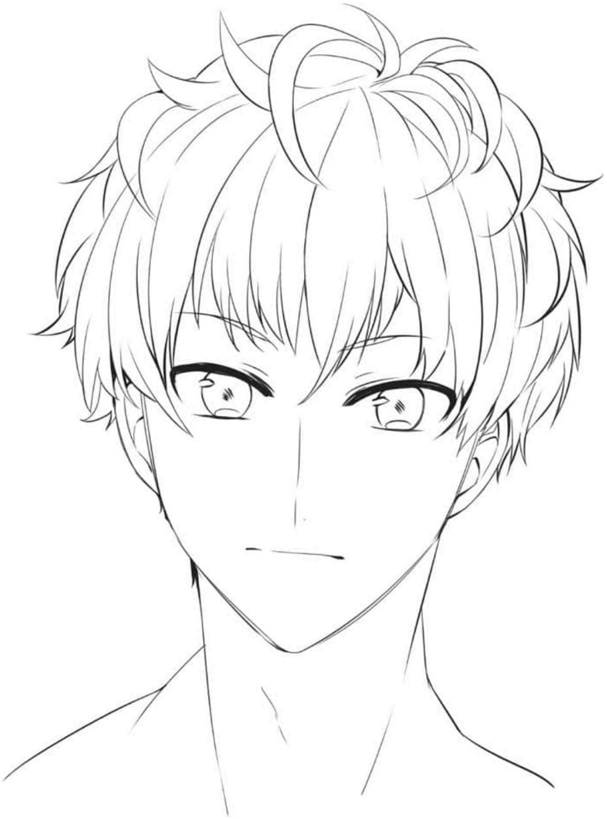
TIP
Draw the sections of hair so that the outer edges taper toward the nape of the neck.

SHORT HAIR, SIDE PART, LONG BANGS

This character's bangs have been drawn with a large arch at the side part to give height and volume as the bangs sweep to one side.

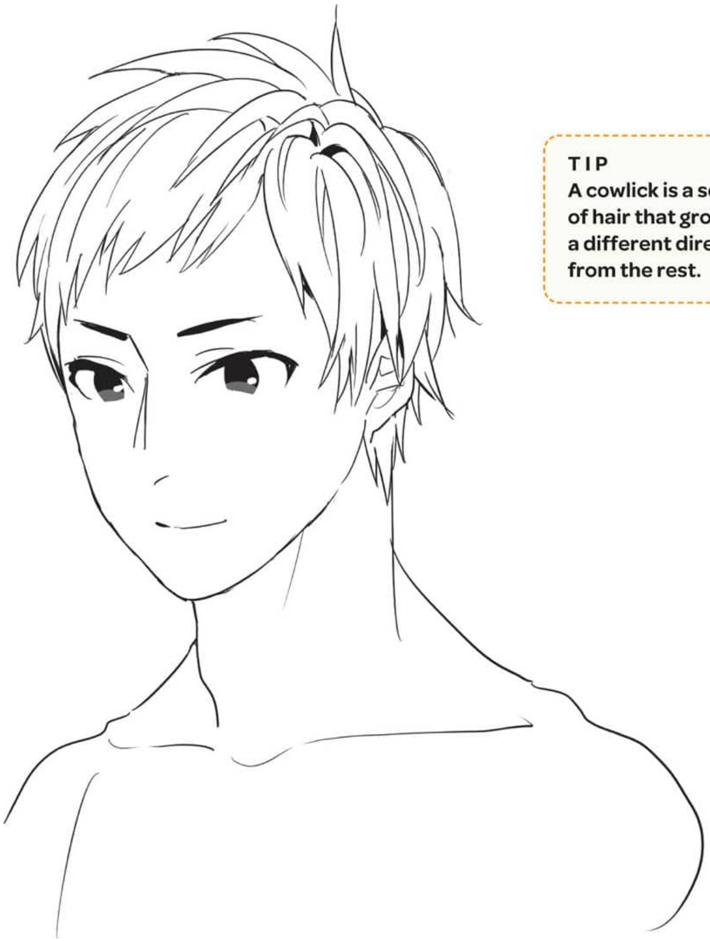


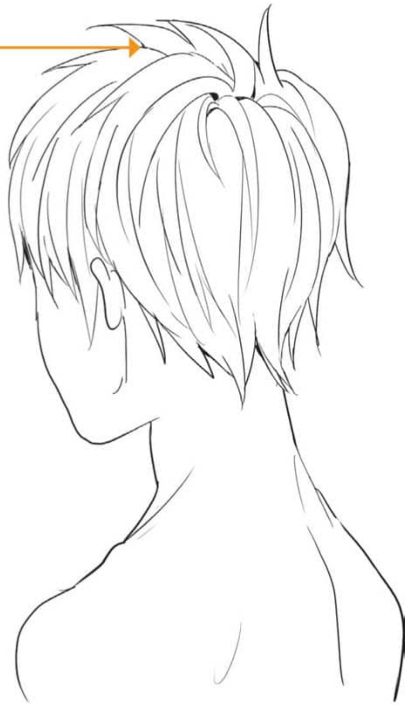
TIP
Draw the hair on the back of the head in staggered layers.



CURLY SHORT HAIR

Layer short hair with loosely curled hair on top of the head for a unique style.

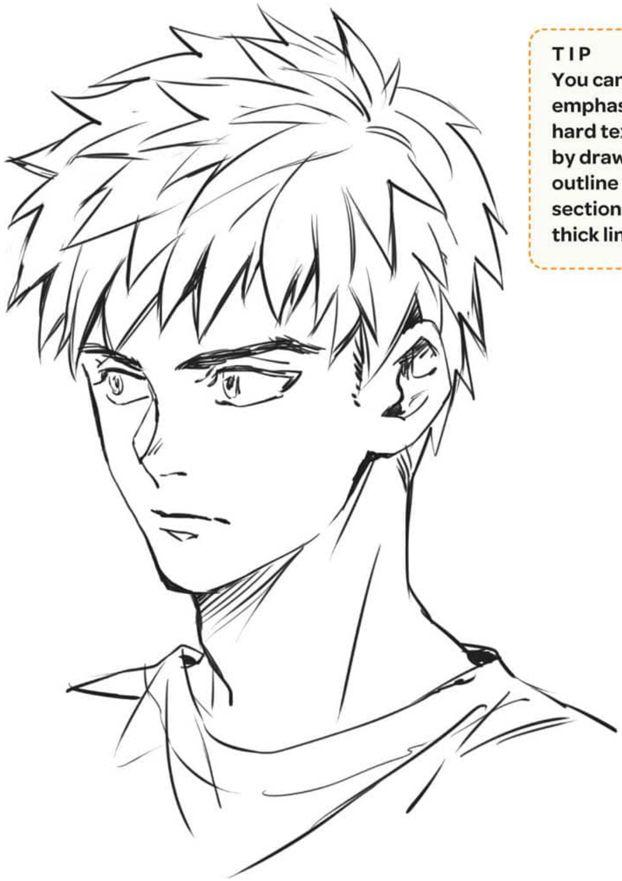


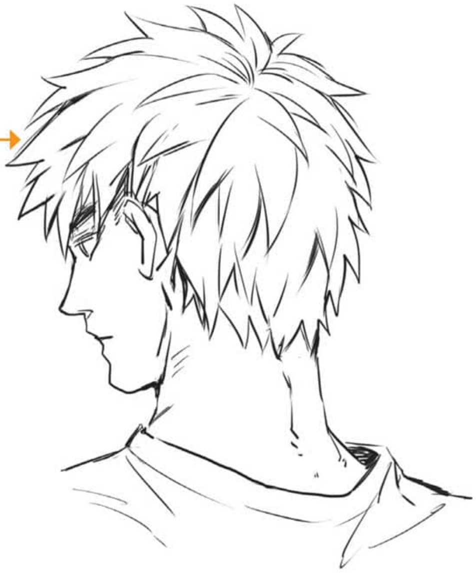


TIP
A cowlick is a section of hair that grows in a different direction from the rest.

SHORT HAIR, LARGE COWLICK

This hairstyle defies gravity with sections lifted off the top of the head. The hair with the most volume is situated at the crown of the head and grows straight up.

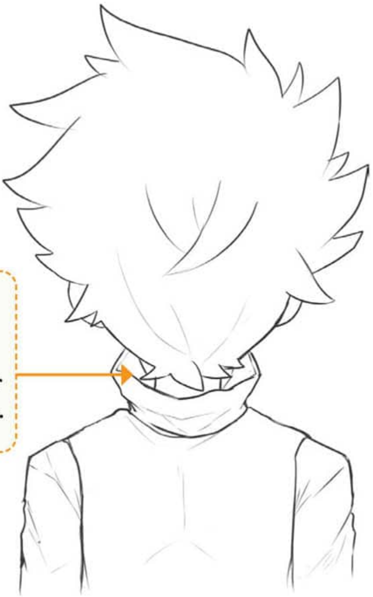




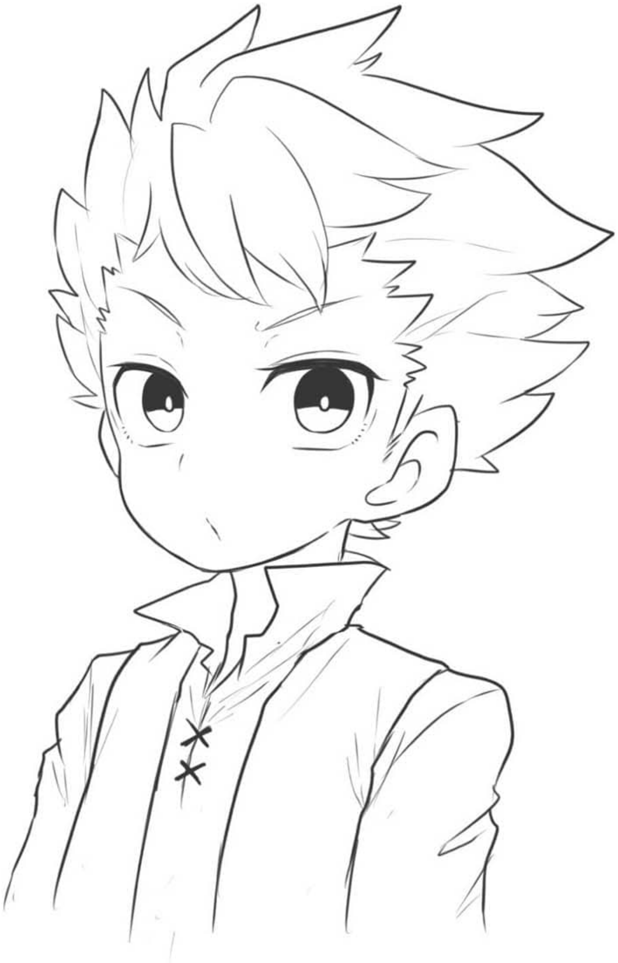
TIP
You can emphasize hard texture by drawing the outline of each section with a thick line.

SPIKED SHORT HAIR

This is a hairstyle you don’t see every day. Styling gel creates defined sections of hair that radiate out from the crown of the head.



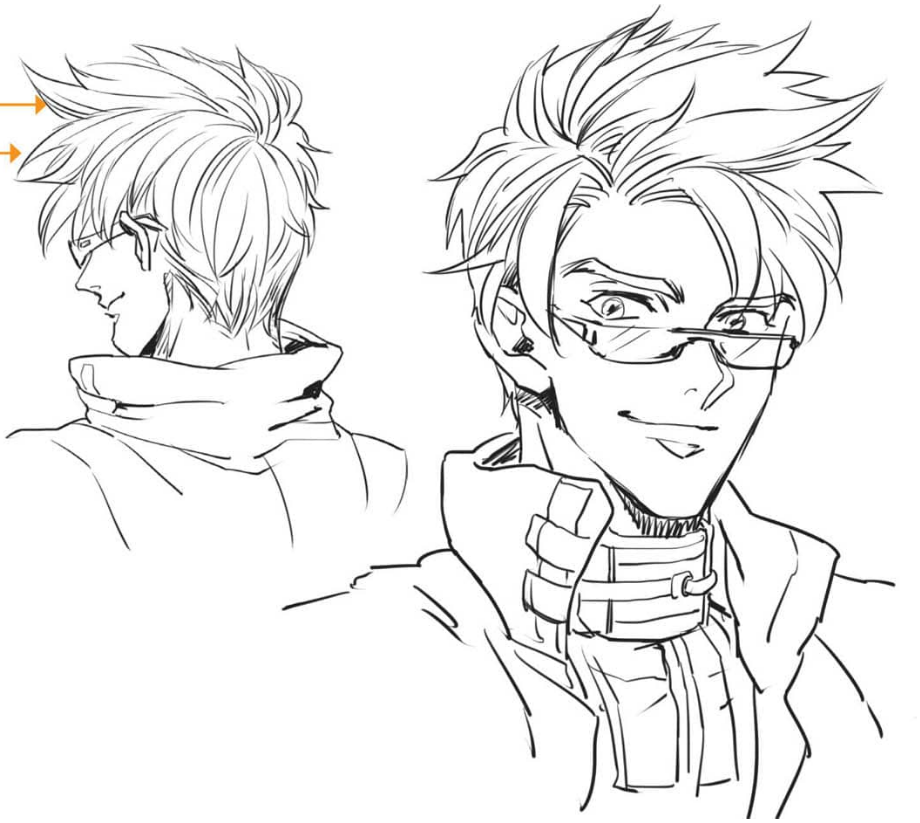
TIP
Randomly add bounce to the ends of the hair on the neckline.



SHORT HAIR, BLOWN OUT

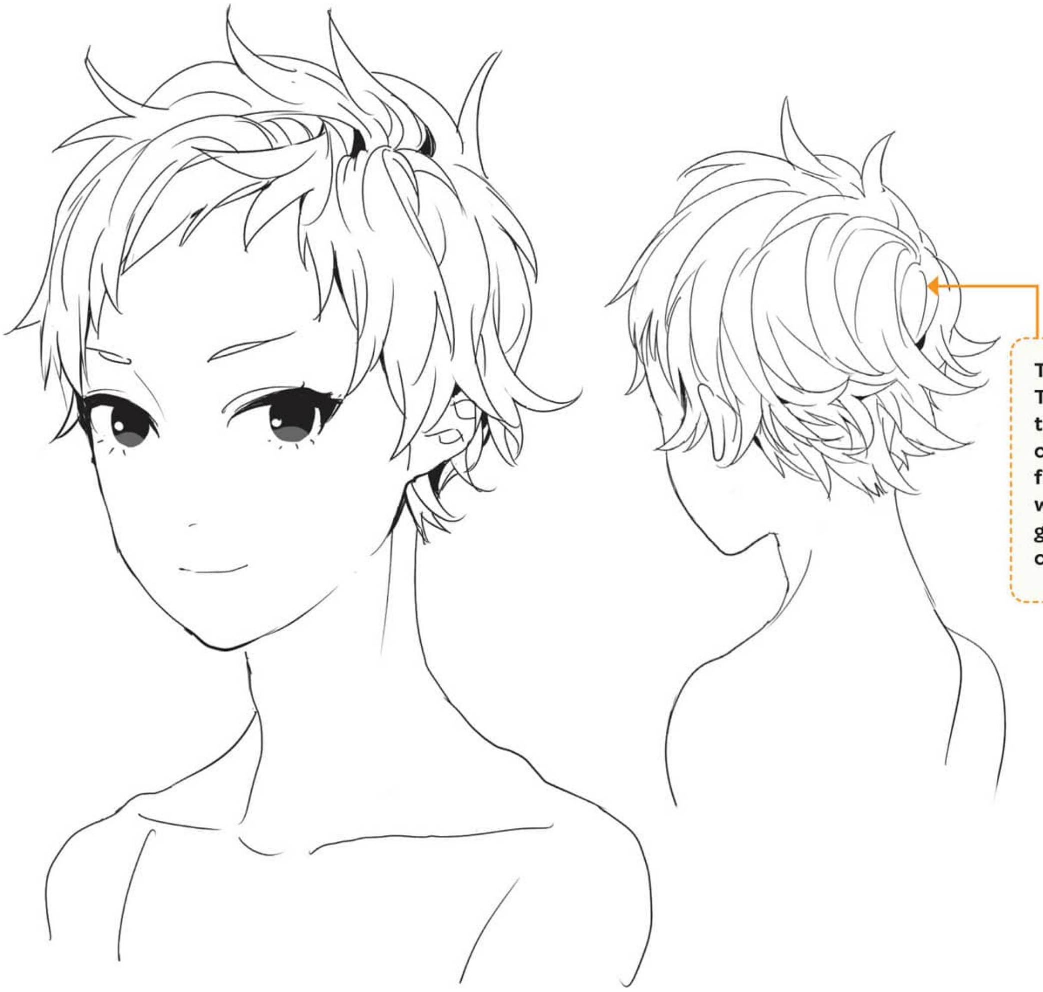
This is a unique way to show your character’s playful side. Here, the hair has been blown dry in a way that has it standing on end.

TIP
Alternate and change the direction in which the ends of the hair bounce to add volume and texture.



SHORT HAIR, SIDE PART, STYLED BANGS

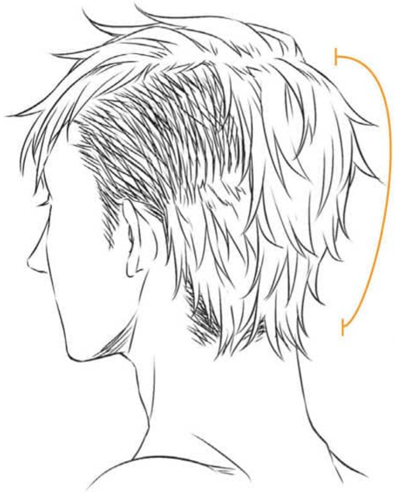
The bangs in this hairstyle have been drawn lifted off the head in some sections and falling forward in others. This creates interesting volume and texture.



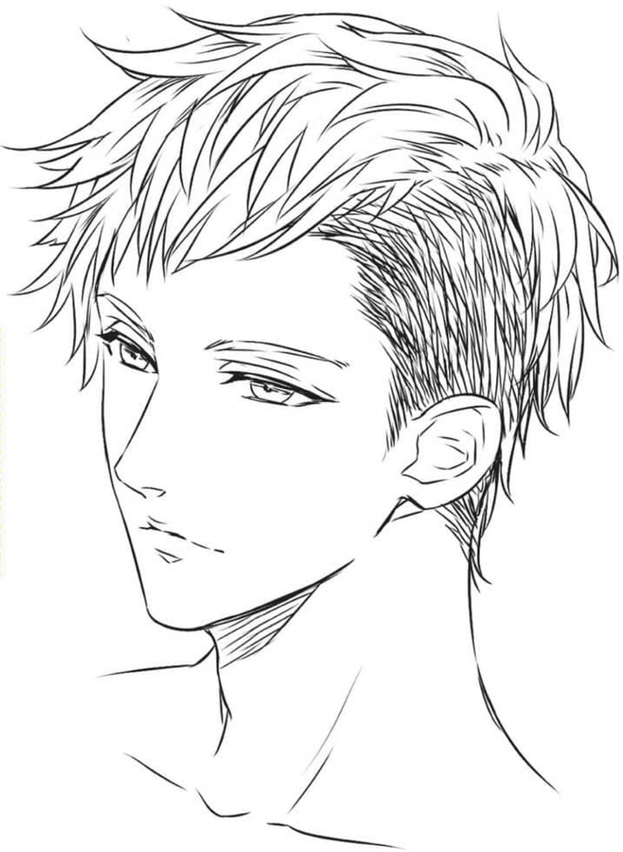
TIP
The curve of the wavy hair is clearly shown from the back where you see it growing from the crown of the head.

WAVY SHORT HAIR

Give the appearance of wavy hair by drawing curves in the short sections. The ends should overlap and randomly stick up for a three-dimensional effect.

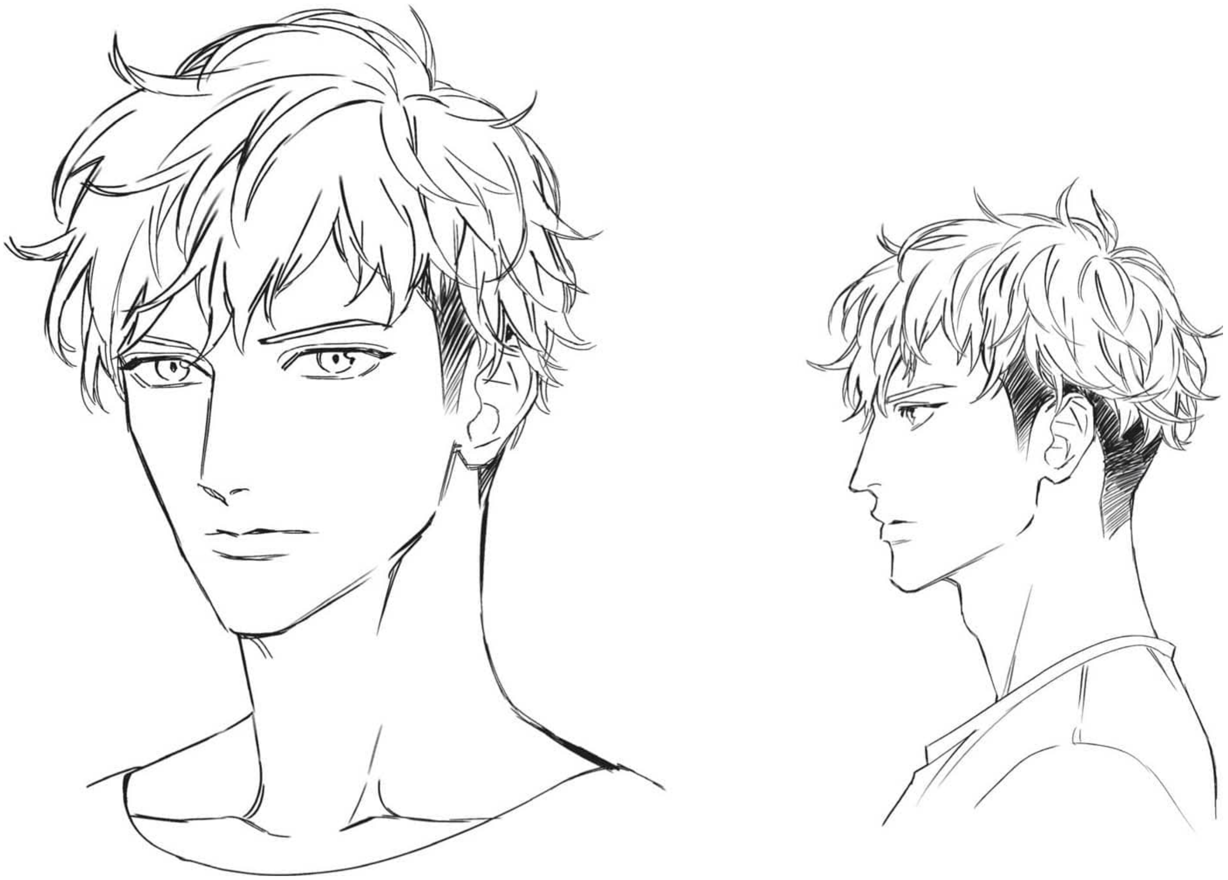


TIP
In this two-block style, the back is left long like the top. In some two-block styles, the back is shaved as well.



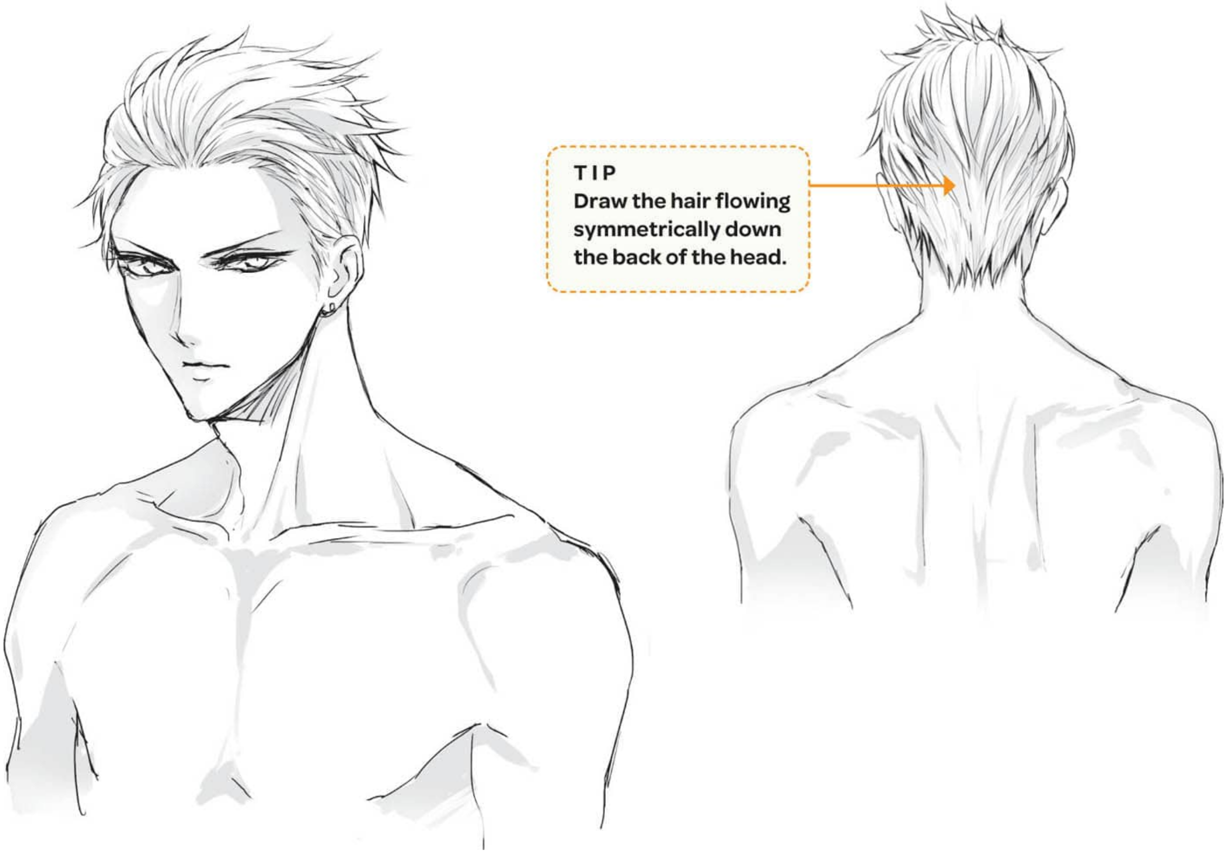
SHORT HAIR, SHAVED SIDES

A hairstyle with the sides shaved and the top of the head left longer is called “two-block.”



WAVY SHORT HAIR, SHAVED SIDES

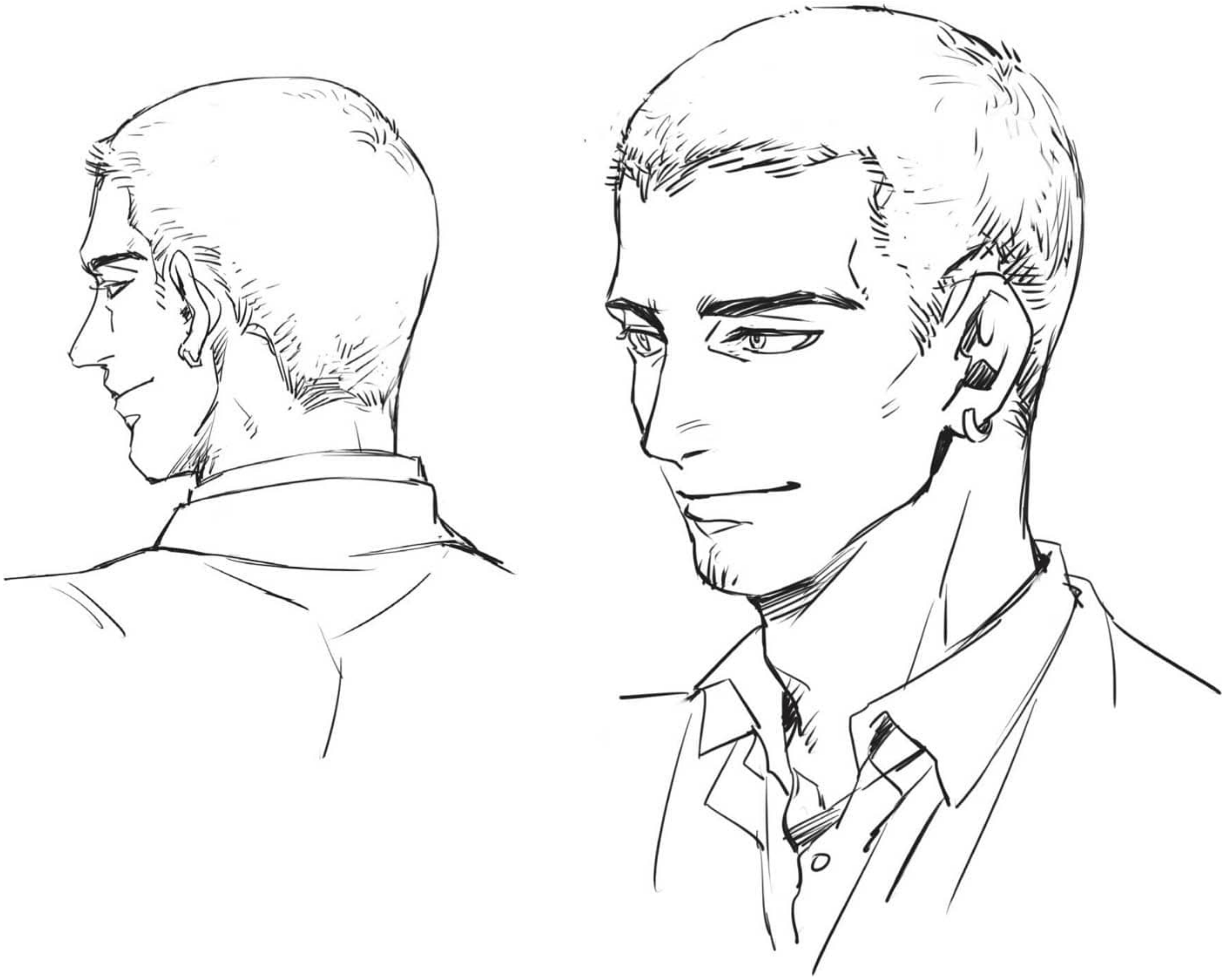
In this two-block style, the sides are shaved with a fade effect and the top of the head features wavy hair.



TIP
Draw the hair flowing symmetrically down the back of the head.

SHORT HAIR, BANGS STYLED BACK

The sides of this hairstyle are shorter than the top, but not fully shaved. The bangs have been styled to flow back from the forehead.

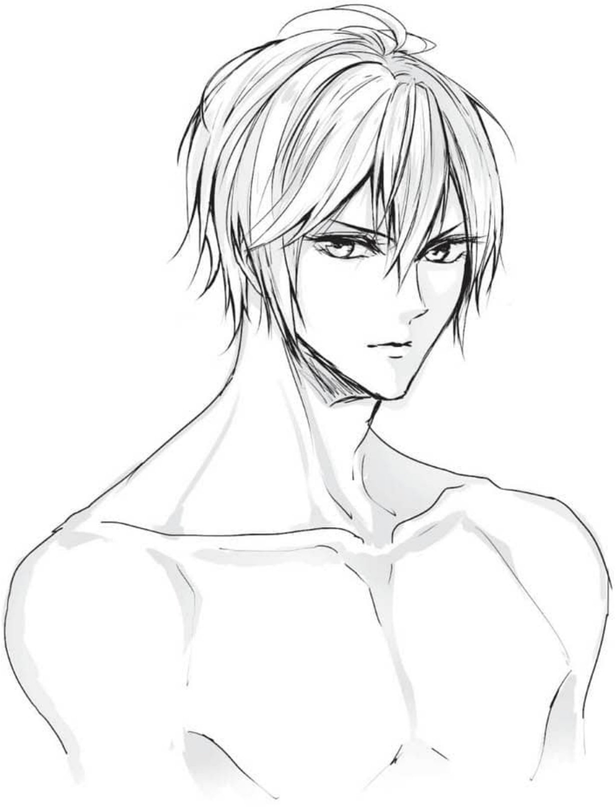


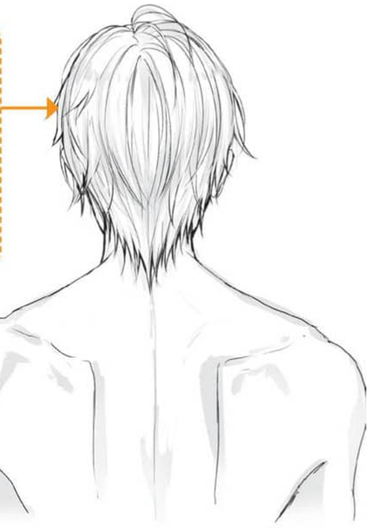
SHAVED SHORT HAIR

The shape of the head is the key to characters with shaved hair. Draw fine lines along the hairline of the bangs and the crown on the back of the head to express how the hair grows.

Medium-Length Hair

Men’s medium-length hair is long enough to cover the ears and neckline. The finished look can easily change by styling the bangs differently or adding texture.

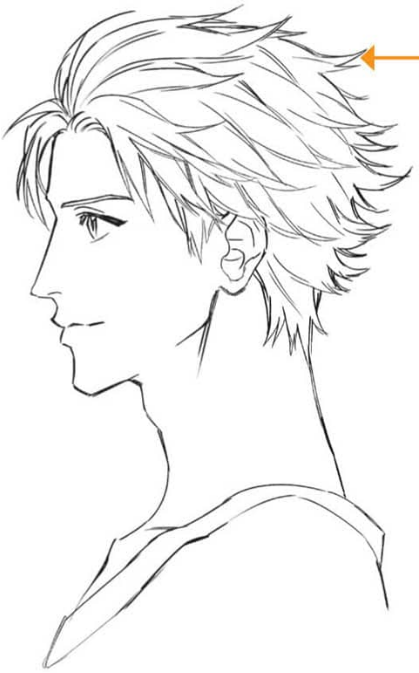




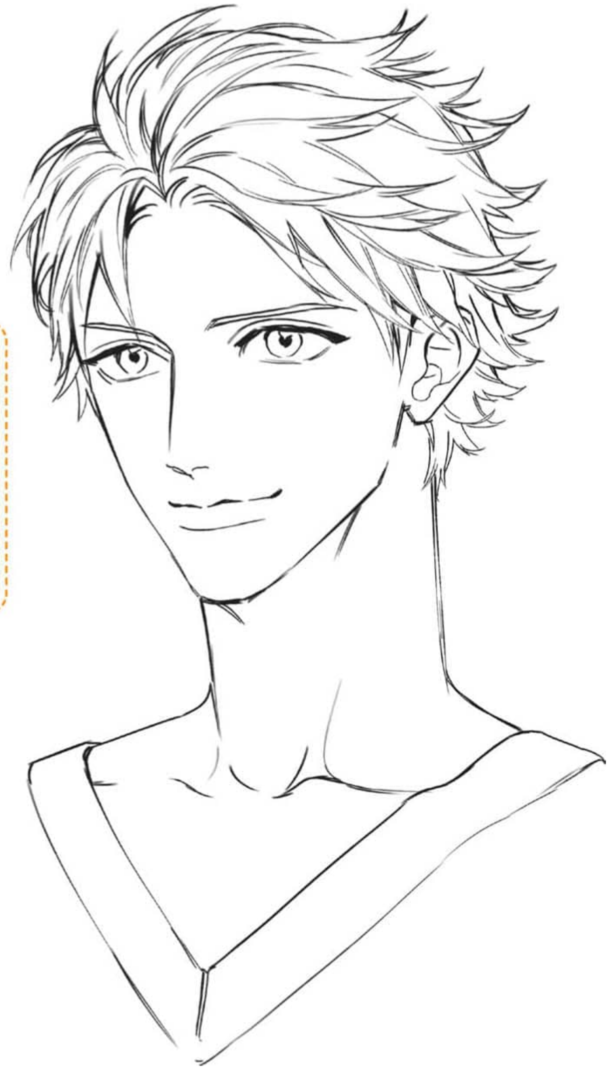
TIP
For more realistic styling, draw some ends popping out from the main area of hair.

STRAIGHT MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, LONG BANGS

In this style, the bangs hanging forward are divided over each eye. The center section tapers to a point. Those sharp points are repeated throughout the ends.

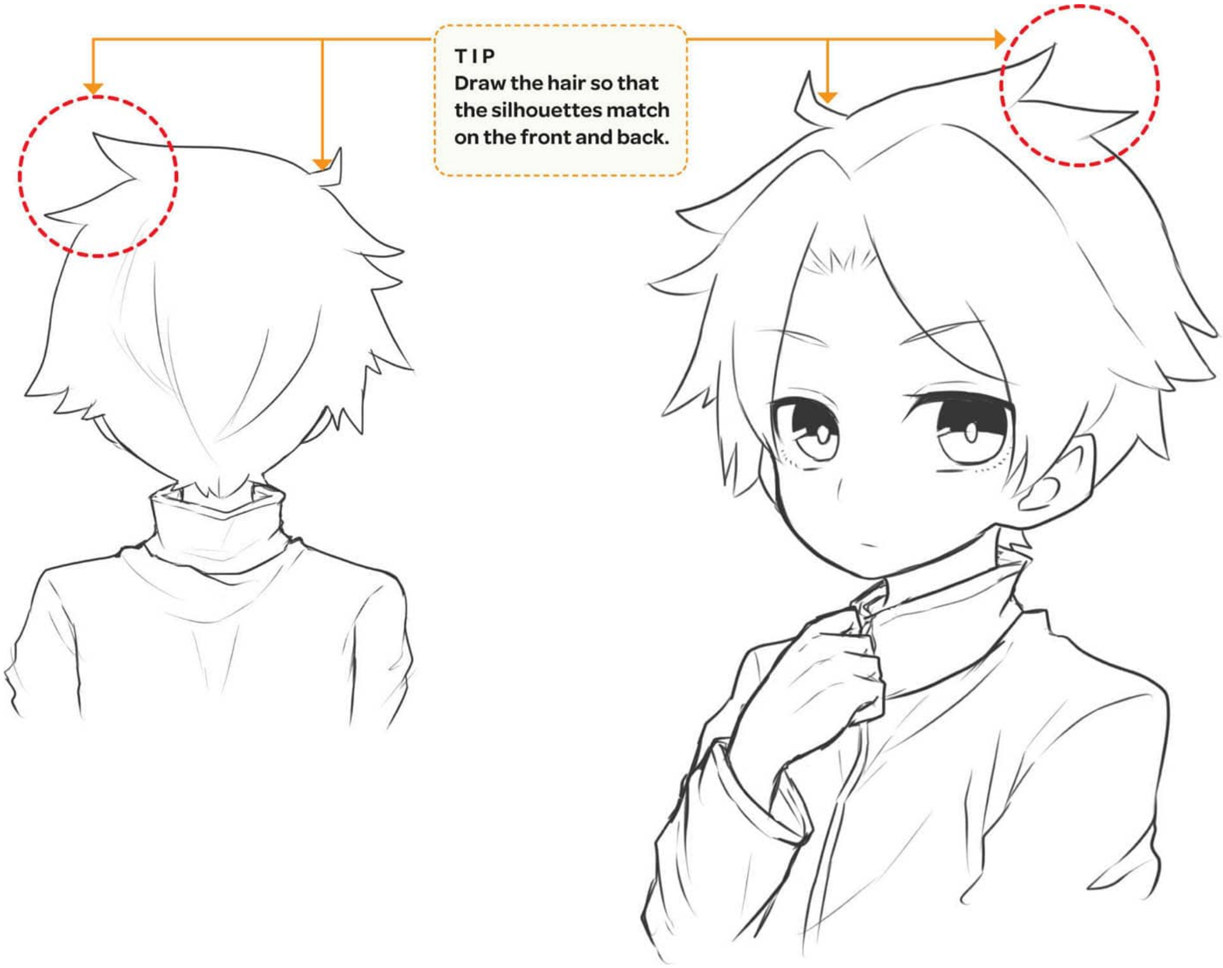


TIP
Give hair bounce and lift by drawing the ends curling up.



WAVY MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR

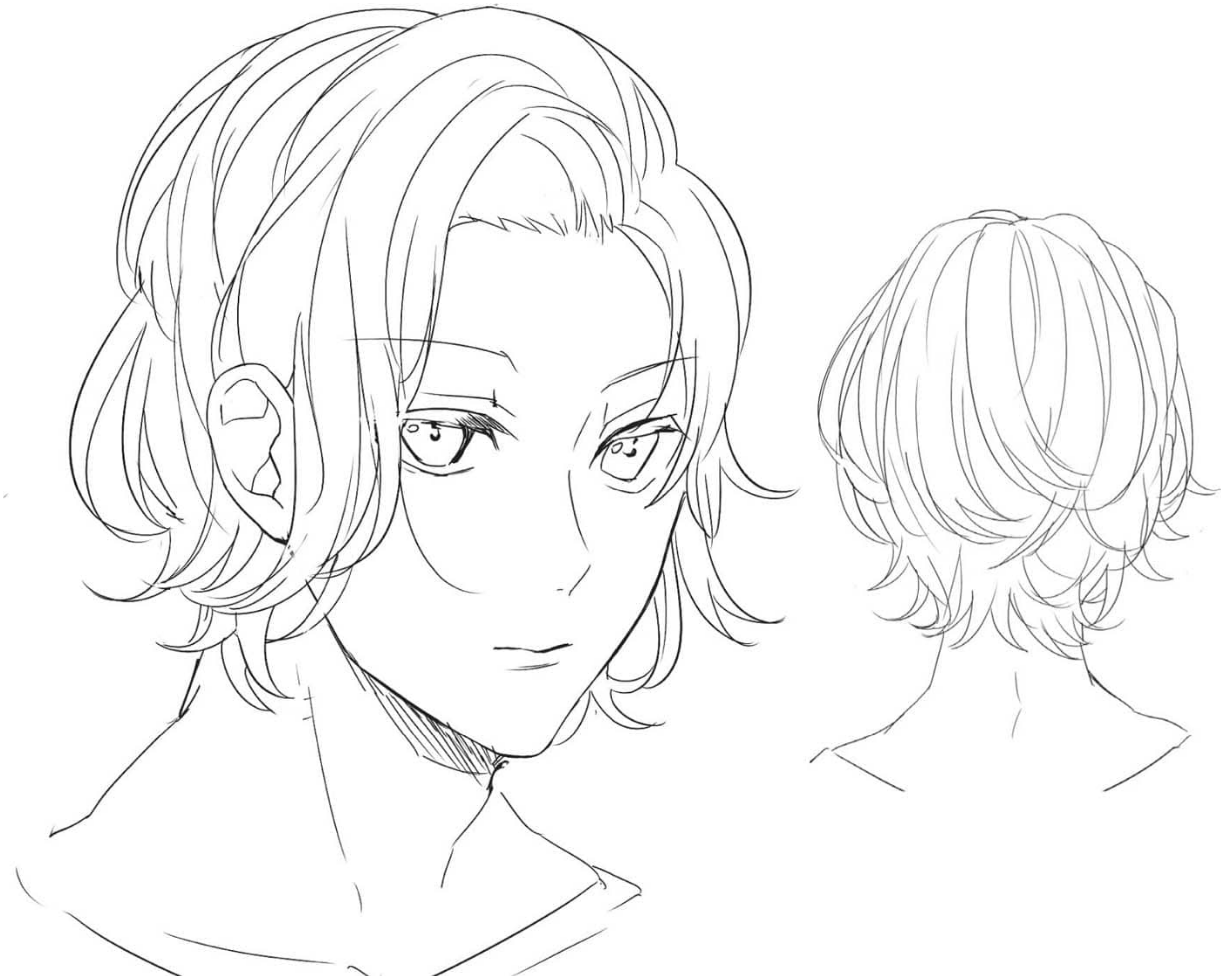
Here, bangs have been styled to flow back away from the face. Overall, the hair has bounce and lift. This is achieved by drawing the ends of sections curling up slightly.



TIP
Draw the hair so that the silhouettes match on the front and back.

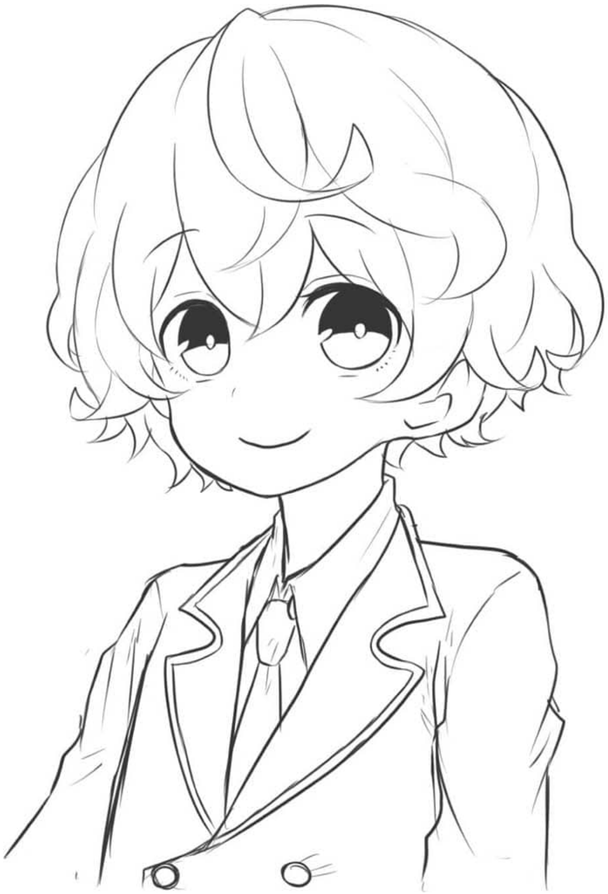
MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, PARTED BANGS

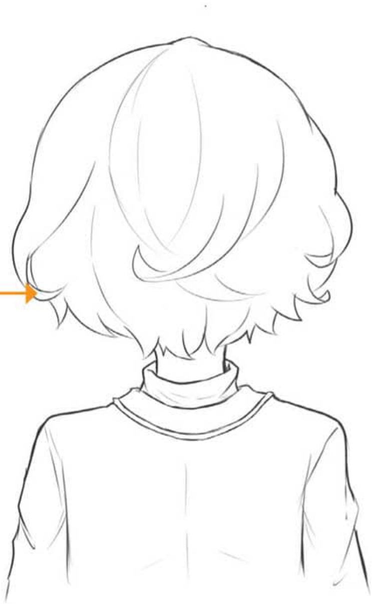
The key to this hairstyle is to draw the hairline in the center of the bangs and draw the hair slightly raised.



LOOSE MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, STYLED BANGS

This expressive look features bangs that are styled to flow up and over to one side. The texture of the hair is shown with fine lines and crisscrossing ends.



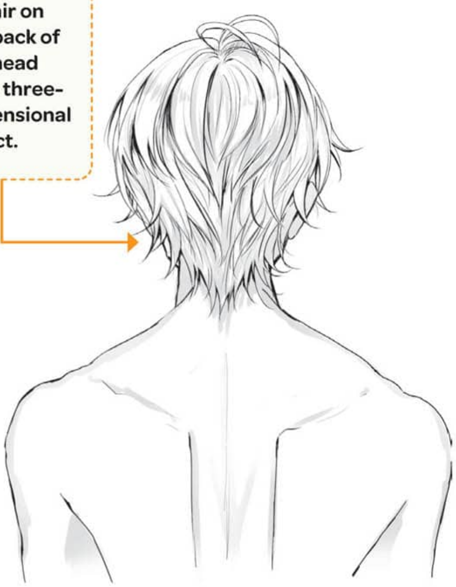


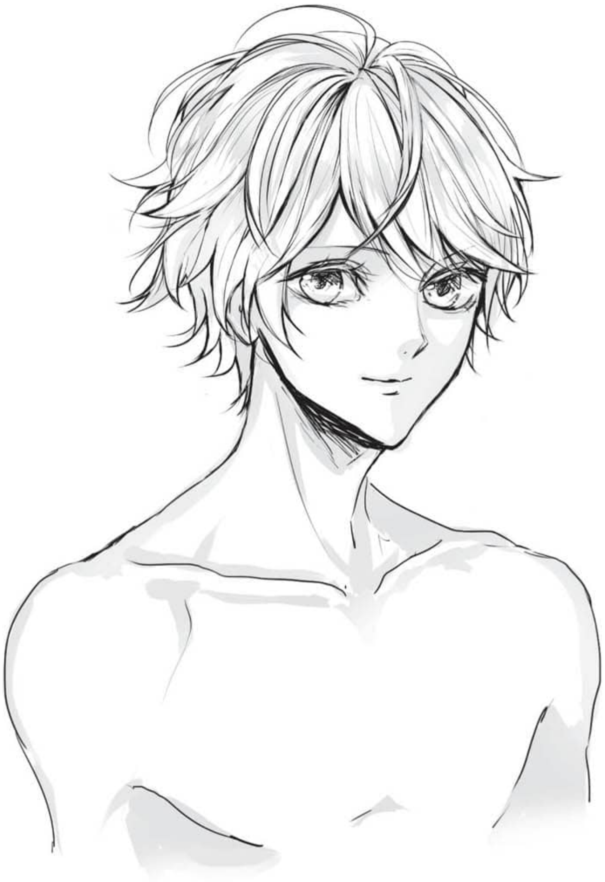
TIP
Draw loose sections of hair that bounce and curl to show a wavy texture.

WAVY MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR

Draw smooth lines that extend from the crown of the head and into the bangs. With just a few defined sections of hair and a larger silhouette, this look appears full and soft.

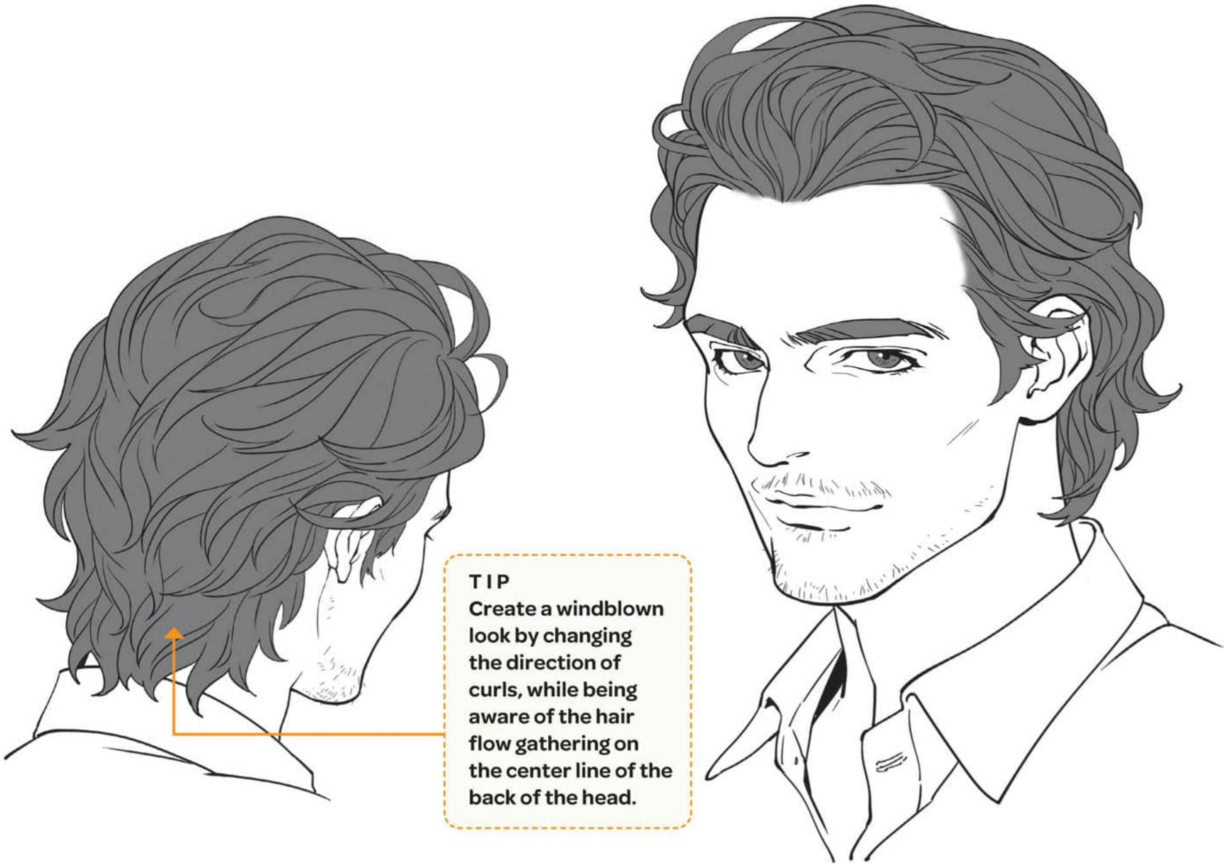
TIP
Add shading between sections of hair on the back of the head for a three-dimensional effect.





MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, HIGH CROWN POINT

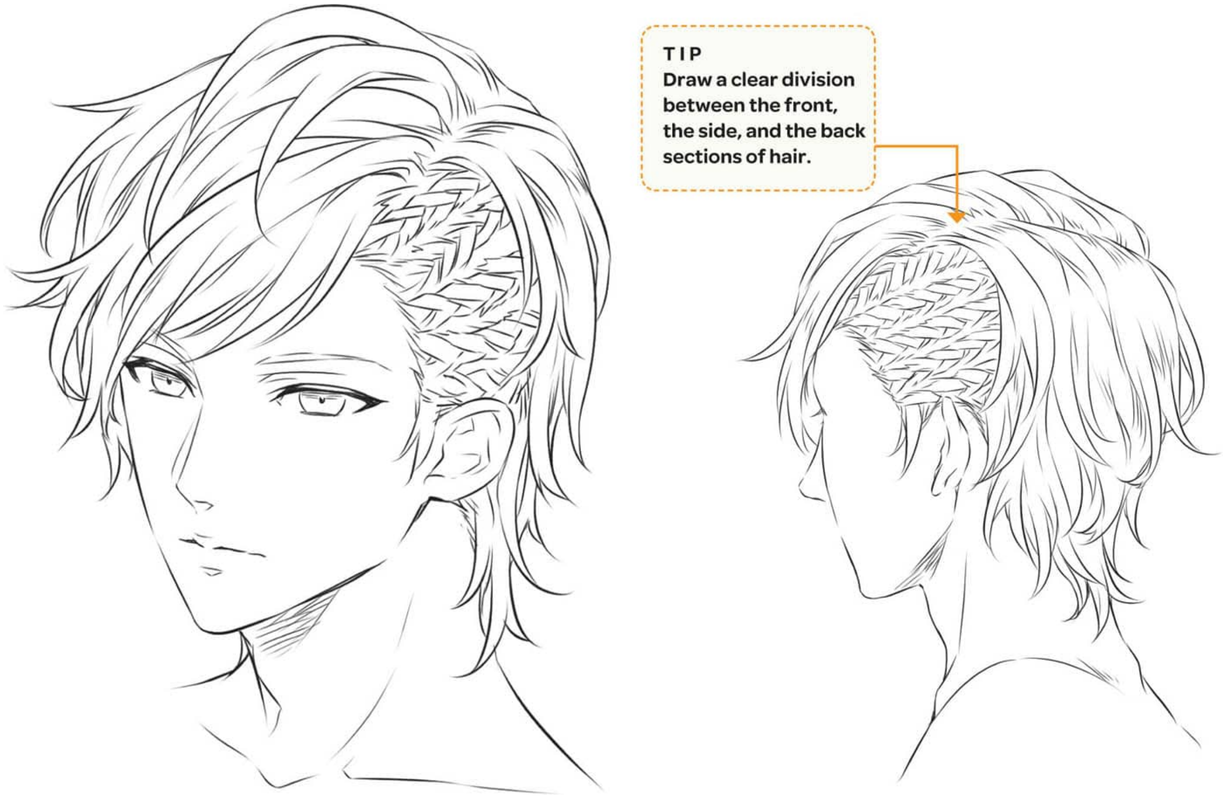
The crown is in a higher position on top of the head in this loose style. Sections of hair radiate in a swirl from the crown point. You can imply a cowlick by drawing some hairs sticking straight up and flopping over.



TIP
Create a windblown look by changing the direction of curls, while being aware of the hair flow gathering on the center line of the back of the head.

WAVY MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, STYLED BANGS

In this wavy hairstyle, the bangs are styled backward to flow away from the face. The height of the bangs implies the hair is thick and has volume. Draw the hair bundles curling irregularly to give a windblown impression.



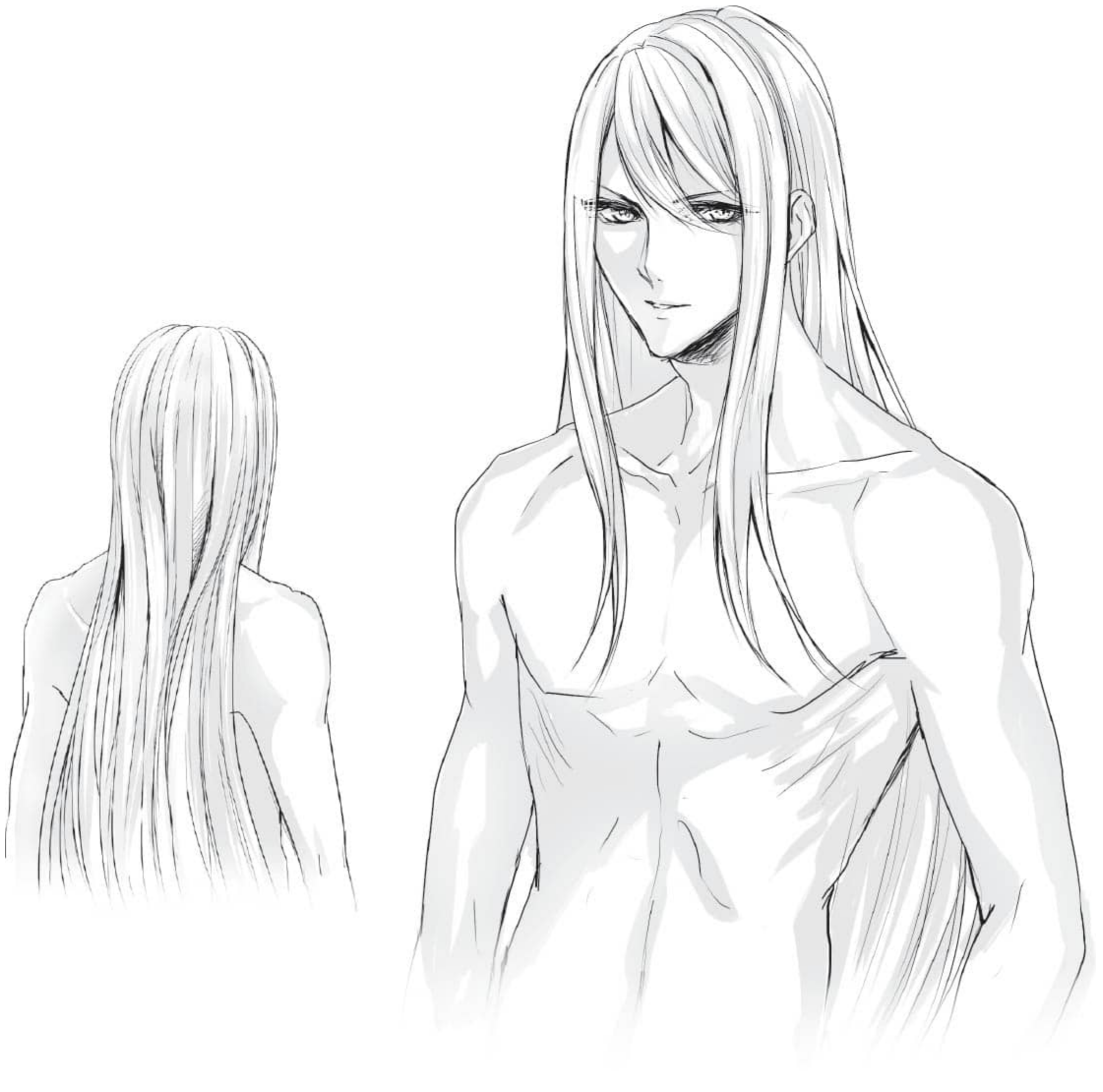
TIP
Draw a clear division between the front, the side, and the back sections of hair.

MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, BRAIDED SIDES

Draw the side section of hair with small braids that are tight to the head for this unique hairstyle.

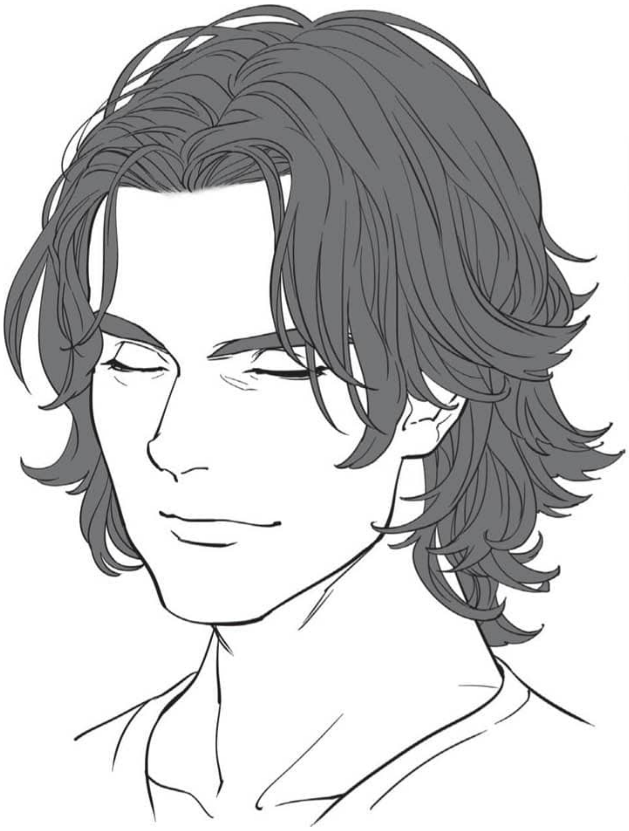
Long Hair

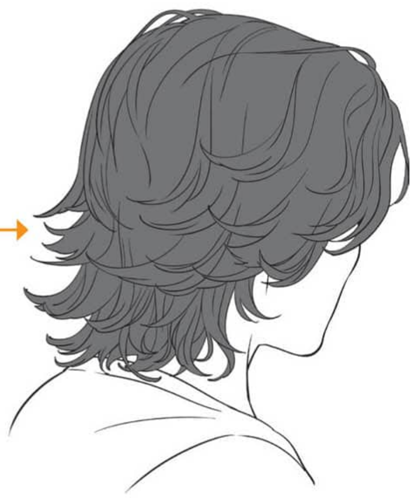
Long hairstyles for men are drawn with the hair extending past the chin, to the collarbone, or past the shoulders. Like female hairstyles, longer hair can be tied in interesting ways.



STRAIGHT SUPER-LONG HAIR

For men with slender features, drawing slanted bangs, such as M-shaped bangs, will give them a sleek look. Here, the hair is so long in the back that you don’t see the ends.

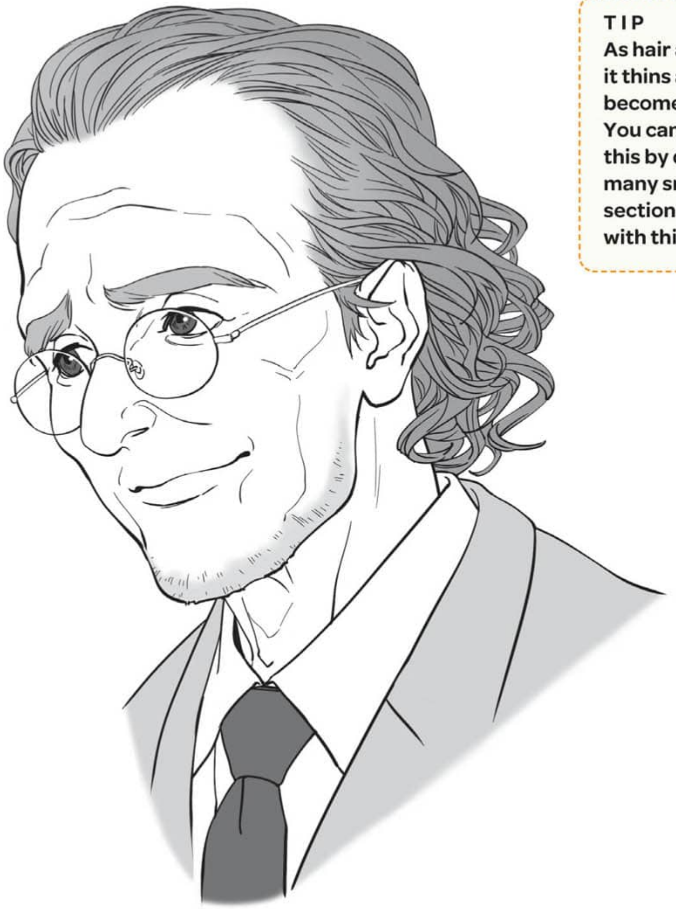




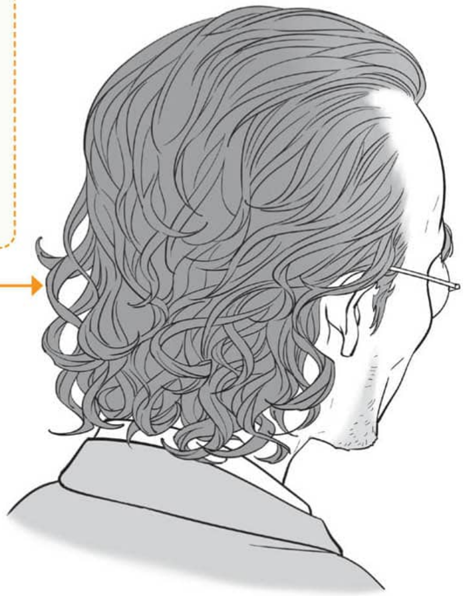
TIP
Let most of the ends of the hair bounce backward to give a sense of unity.

WAVY LONG HAIR, CENTER PART

This shaggy, unkept look is implied by drawing many small sections of hair with curled ends. Note, the bangs are split at the middle and drawn flopping to the sides.

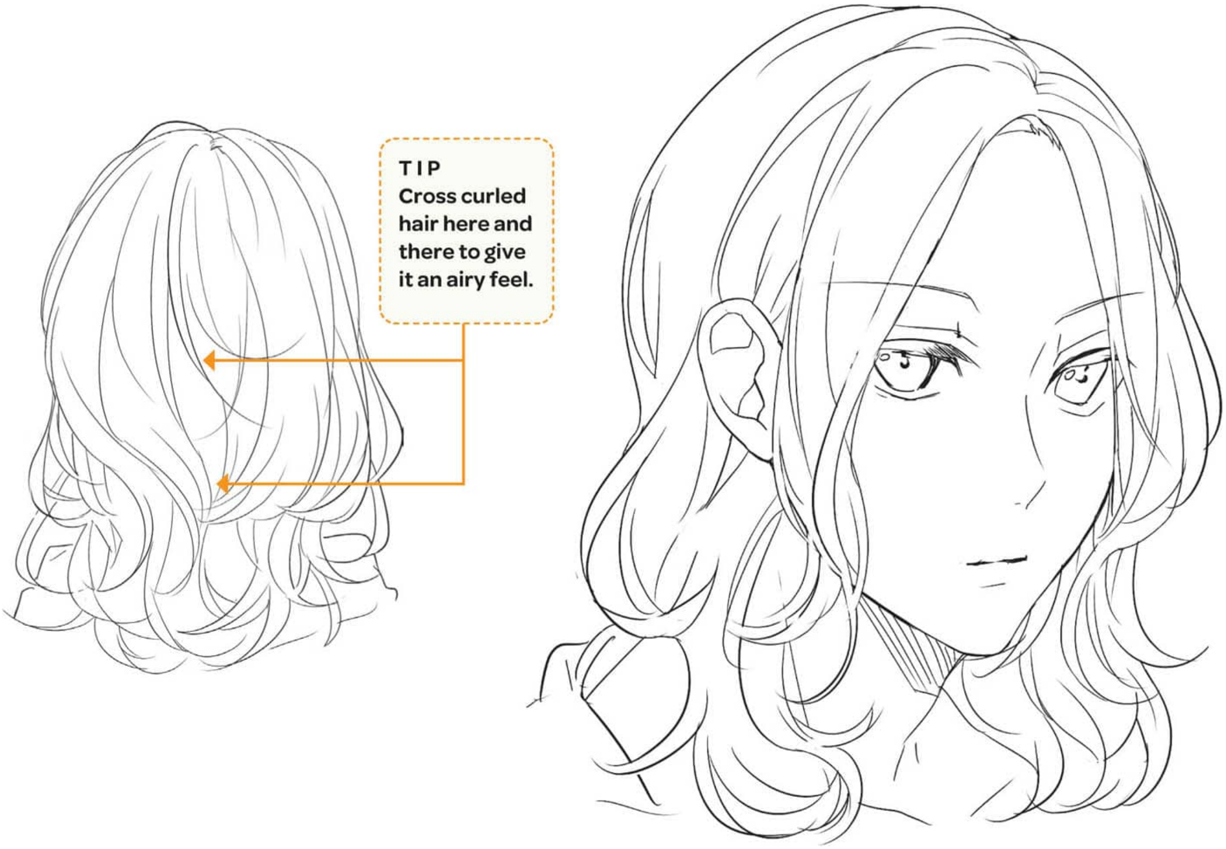


TIP
As hair ages, it thins and becomes finer. You can show this by drawing many small sections of hair with thin lines.



CURLY LONG HAIR, RECEDING HAIRLINE

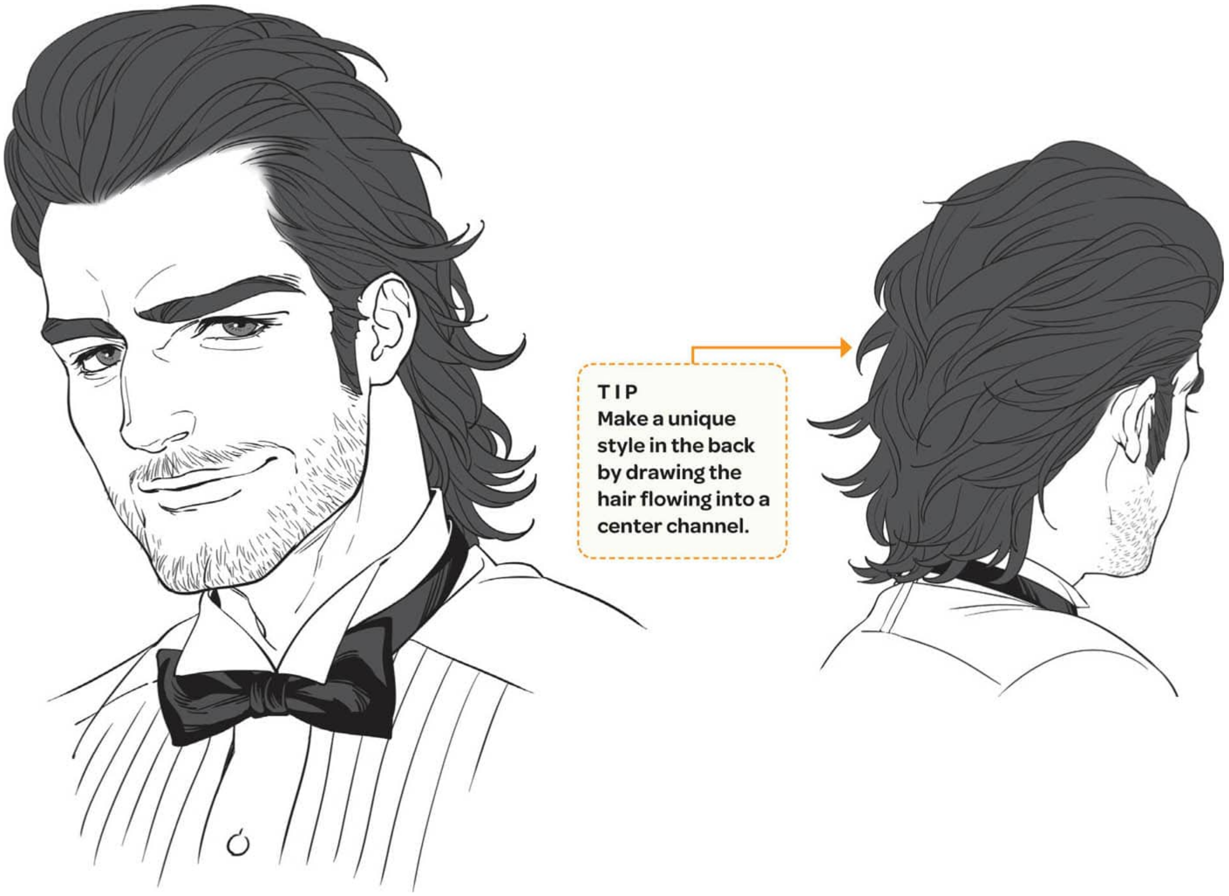
As men age, their front hairline recedes. In this style, the hairline is pushed back at the temples, and the back is long with ringlet curls.



TIP
Cross curled hair here and there to give it an airy feel.

LONG HAIR, LONG BANGS, CENTER PART

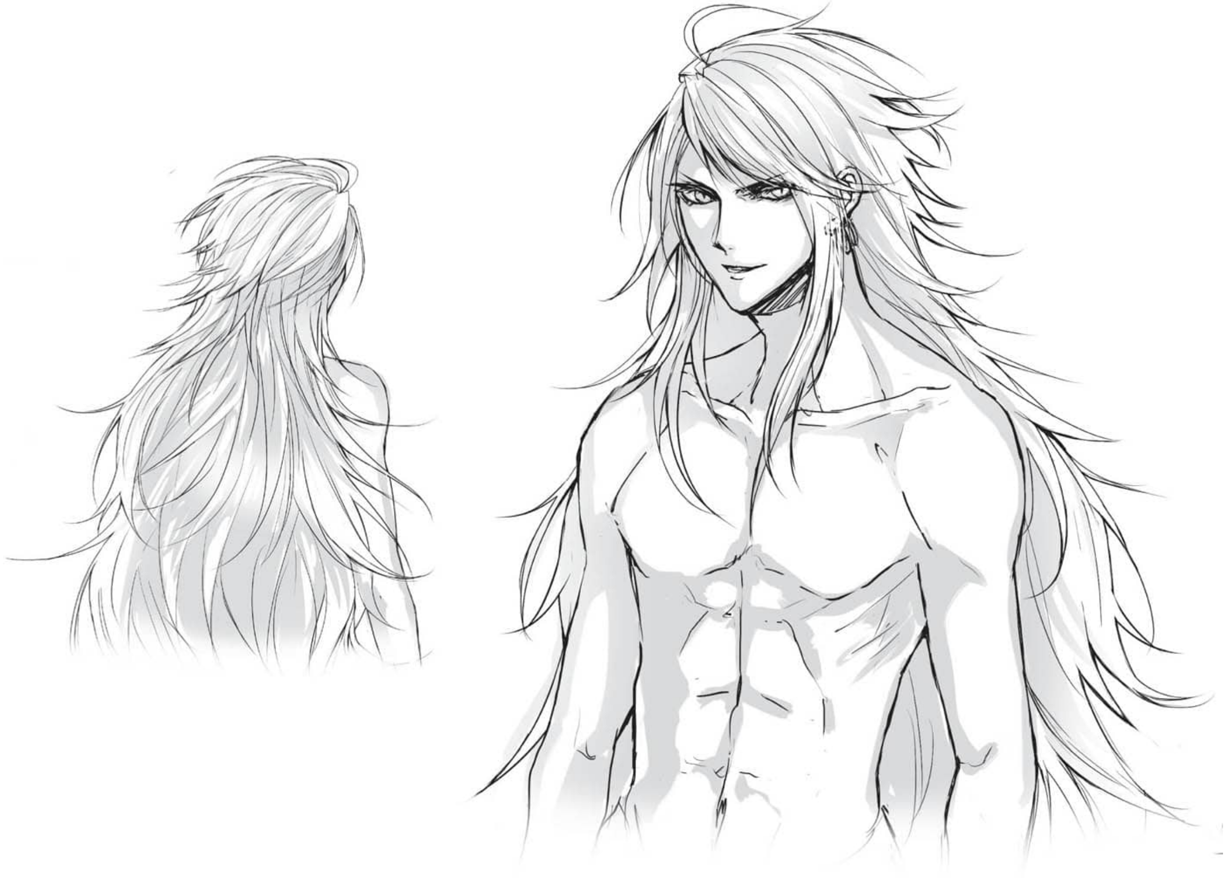
Draw straight hair from the top of the head to the ears, and wavy hair from the ears to the bottom, to suggest tousled, messy hair.



TIP
Make a unique style in the back by drawing the hair flowing into a center channel.

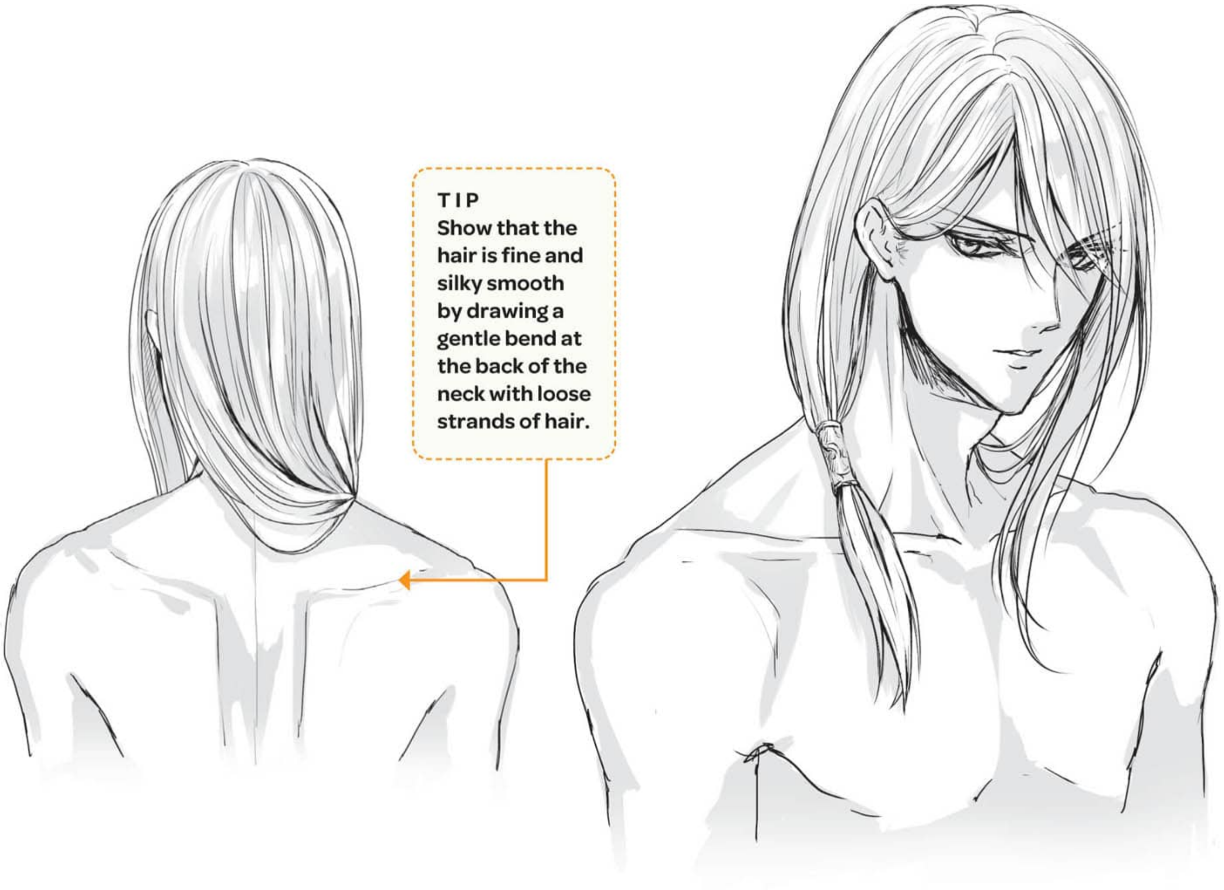
LONG HAIR, COMBED BACK

In this long hairstyle, the bangs and sides of the hair flow to the back, suggesting a windblown look.



SUPER-LONG HAIR, SHAGGY ENDS

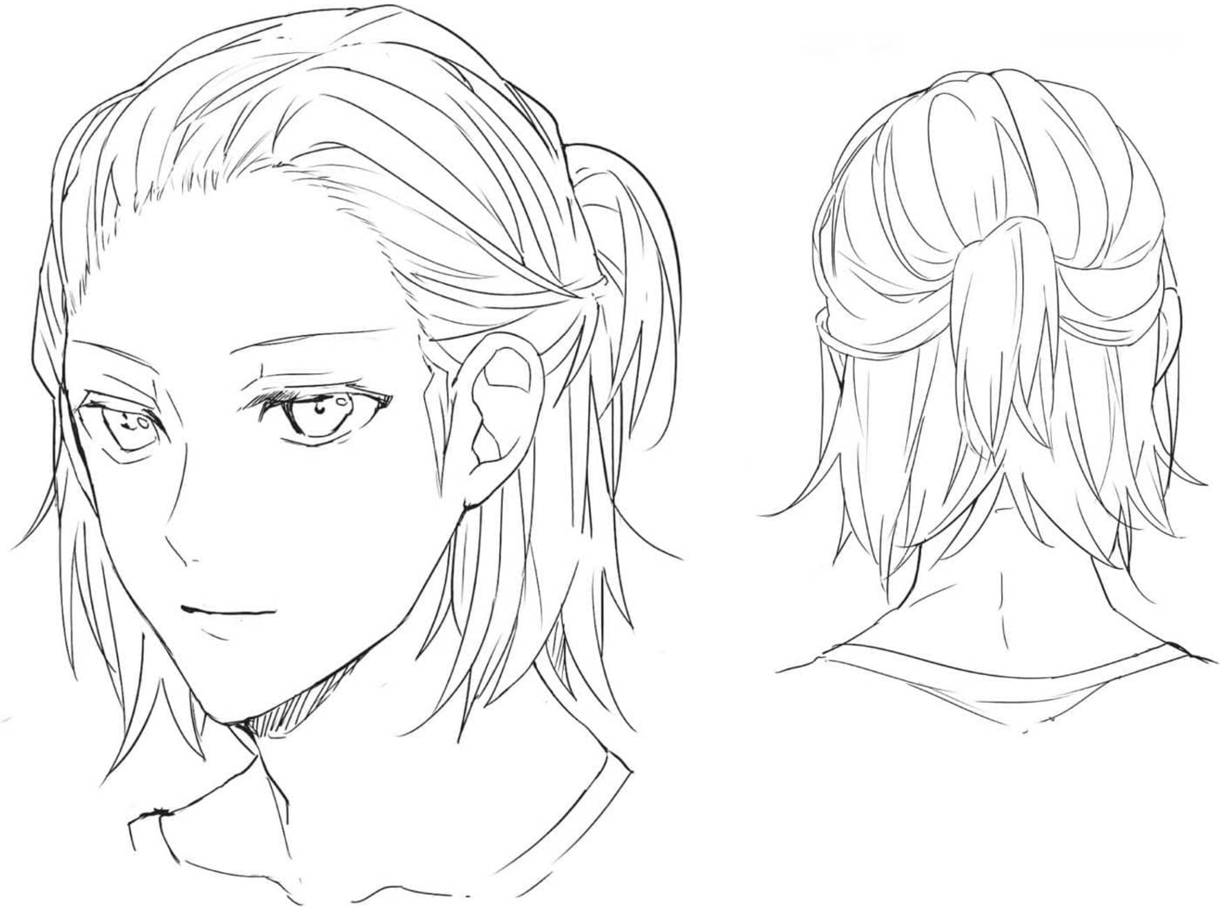
For a wild, exaggerated hairstyle, draw sections of hair at different lengths while gradually shortening each one from the waist to the top of the head.



TIP
Show that the hair is fine and silky smooth by drawing a gentle bend at the back of the neck with loose strands of hair.

STRAIGHT LONG HAIR, SIDE PONYTAIL

This long hairstyle is an asymmetrical look for male characters. A ponytail of hair is gathered low on one side and tied with a decorative metal clip.



LONG HAIR, TOP HALF PULLED BACK

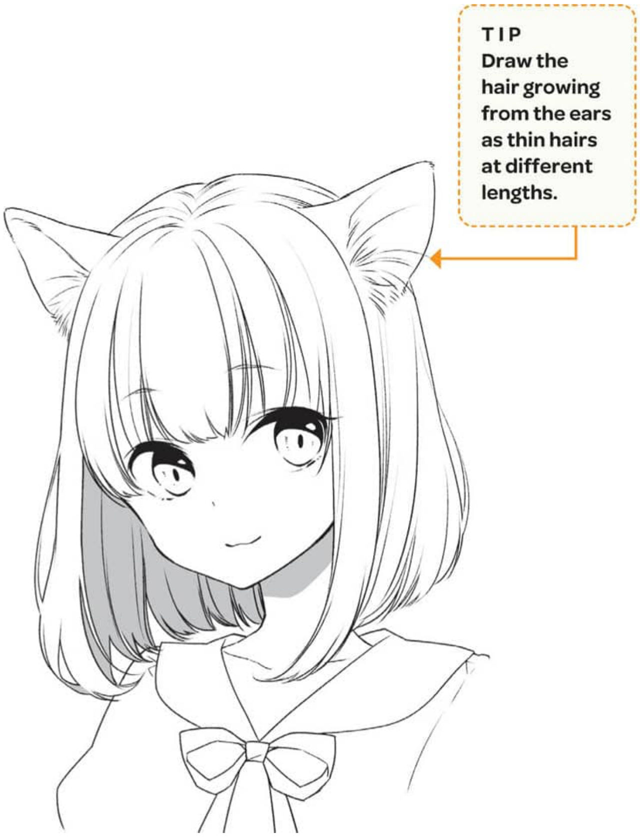
The top of this character’s hair has been pulled back into a half ponytail. Sideburns in front of the ears have been added as well.

Unique Hairstyles

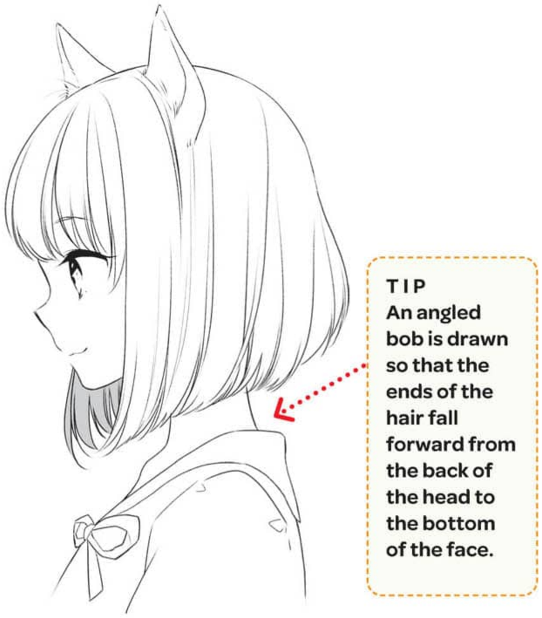
In the fiction world, many imaginary characters, such as human-animal hybrids, exist. In this section, learn tips for drawing hair with elements unique to fictional creatures.

Hair with Ears

The key to drawing characters with animal ears is to create a hairstyle that makes use of the texture of the animal hair as the base.



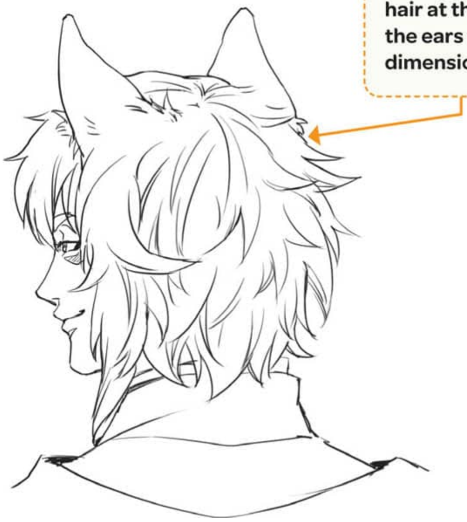
TIP
Draw the hair growing from the ears as thin hairs at different lengths.



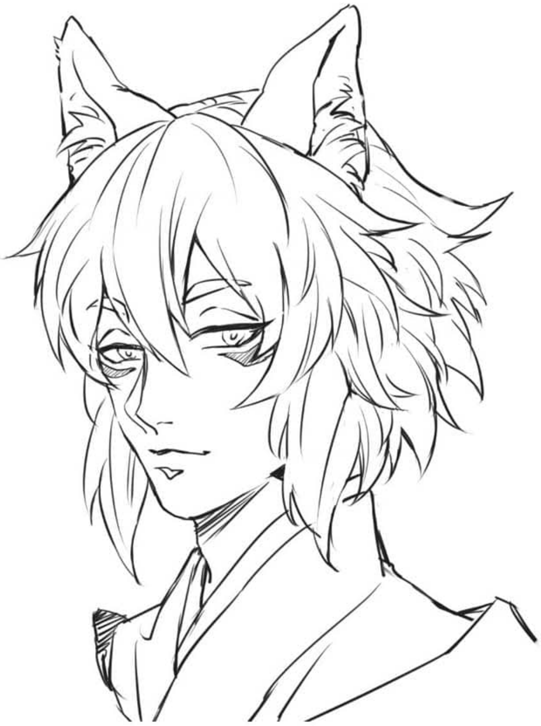
TIP
An angled bob is drawn so that the ends of the hair fall forward from the back of the head to the bottom of the face.

MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, CAT EARS

Straight hair works well with the shape and texture of cat ears. Here, the hair is drawn as a simple bob, which makes the ears easily visible.



TIP
Draw short bouncy hair at the base of the ears for a three-dimensional effect.

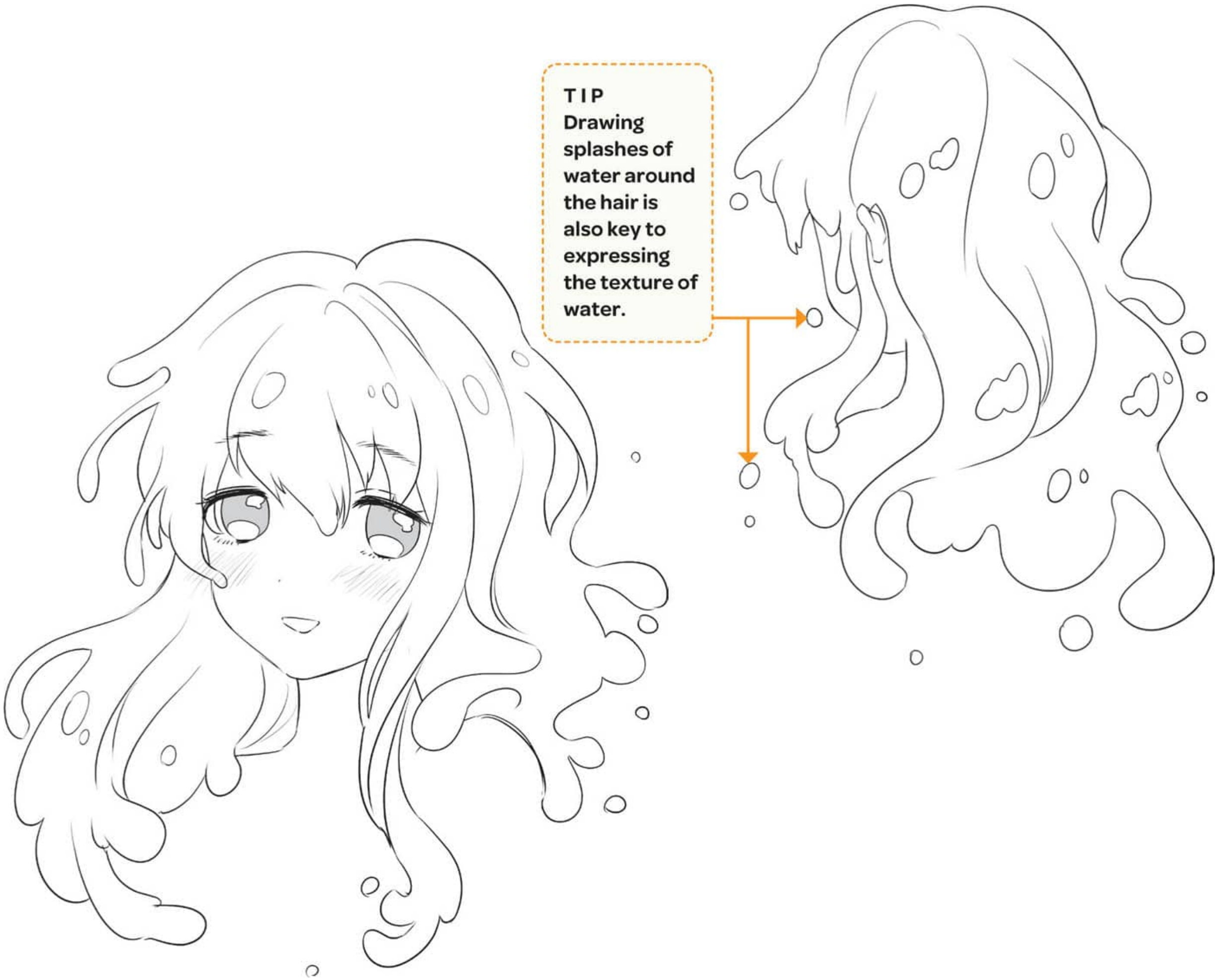


WAVY MEDIUM-LENGTH HAIR, FOX EARS

Echo the texture of animal fur in human hair with this shaggy hairstyle. Draw the ends of sections of layered hair sticking out and crisscrossing for a lifelike effect.

Elemental Hair

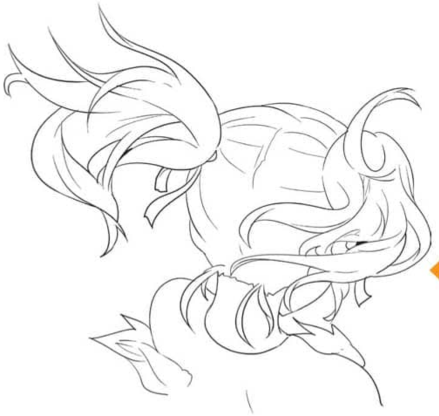
Fictional hairstyles influenced by natural elements, such as wind, water, and fire, can be divided into two styles: hair made of the element itself, or hair that takes on the shape of the element.

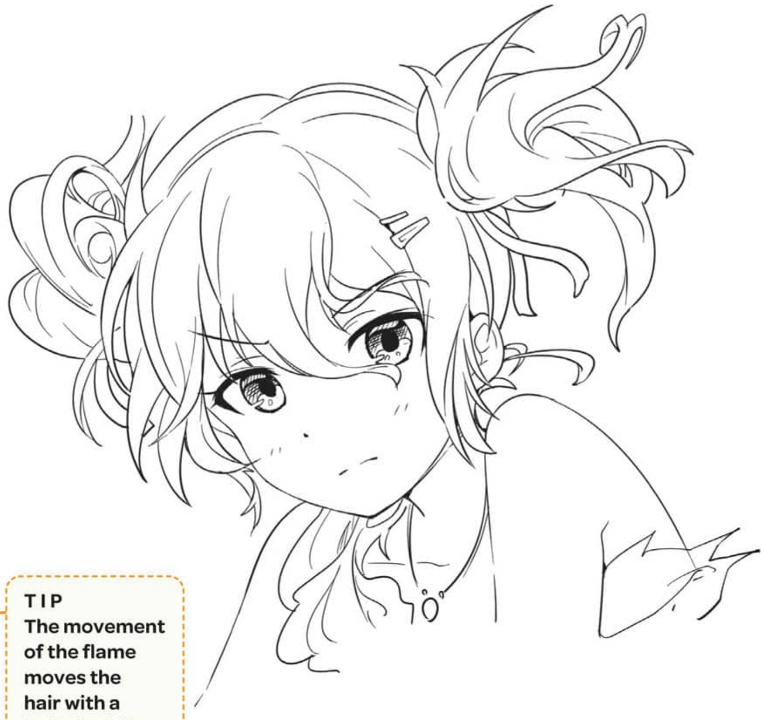


TIP
Drawing splashes of water around the hair is also key to expressing the texture of water.

WATERY HAIR

Hair made of water should be drawn like flowing water. Round the ends and use bubbles instead of highlights.





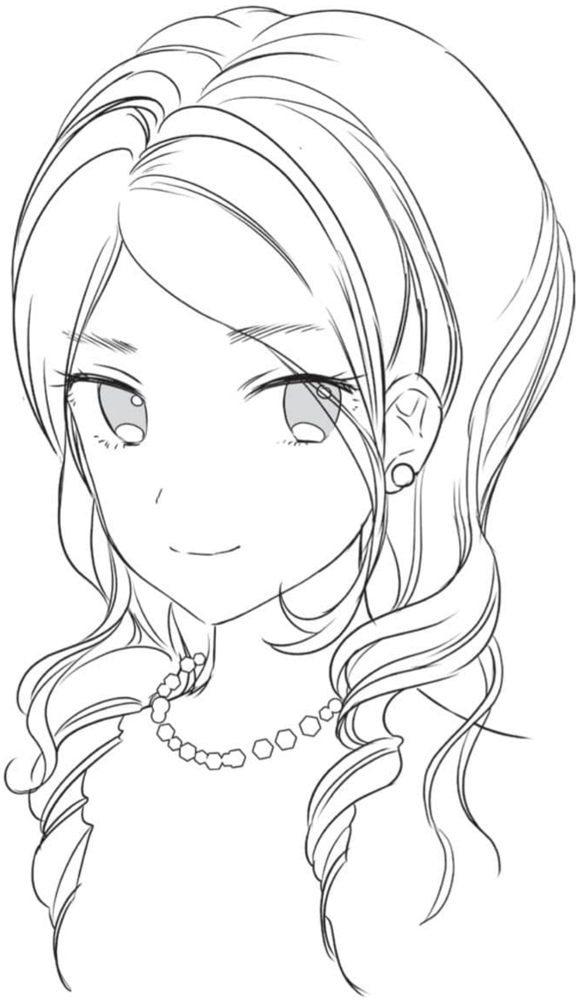
TIP
The movement of the flame moves the hair with a turbulent flow.

FIERY HAIR

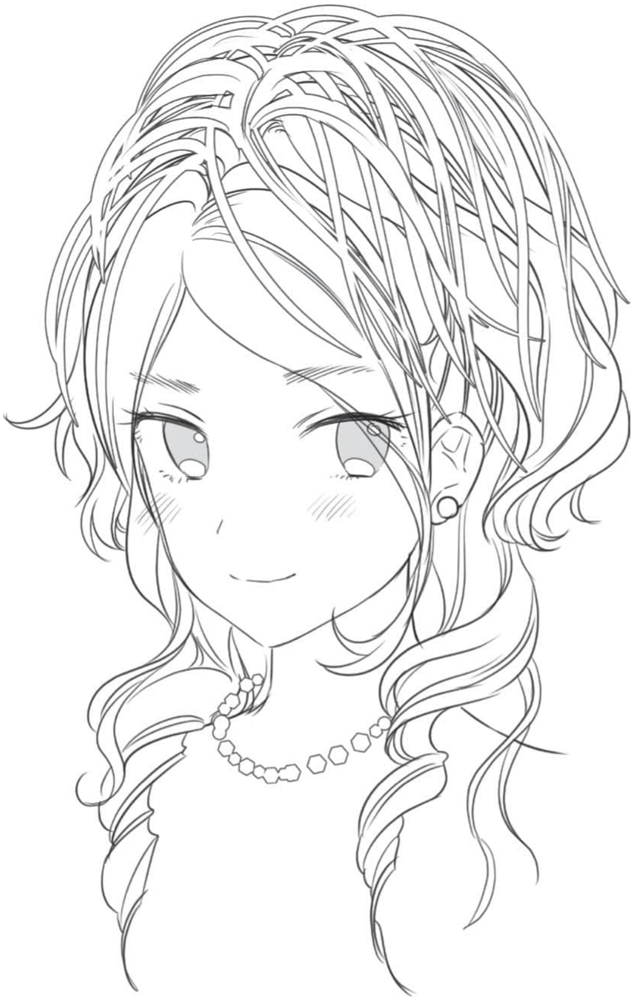
This character’s hair represents the element of fire. The sections of hair have been drawn to look like flames with irregular ends.

ADDING VOLUME TO HAIR

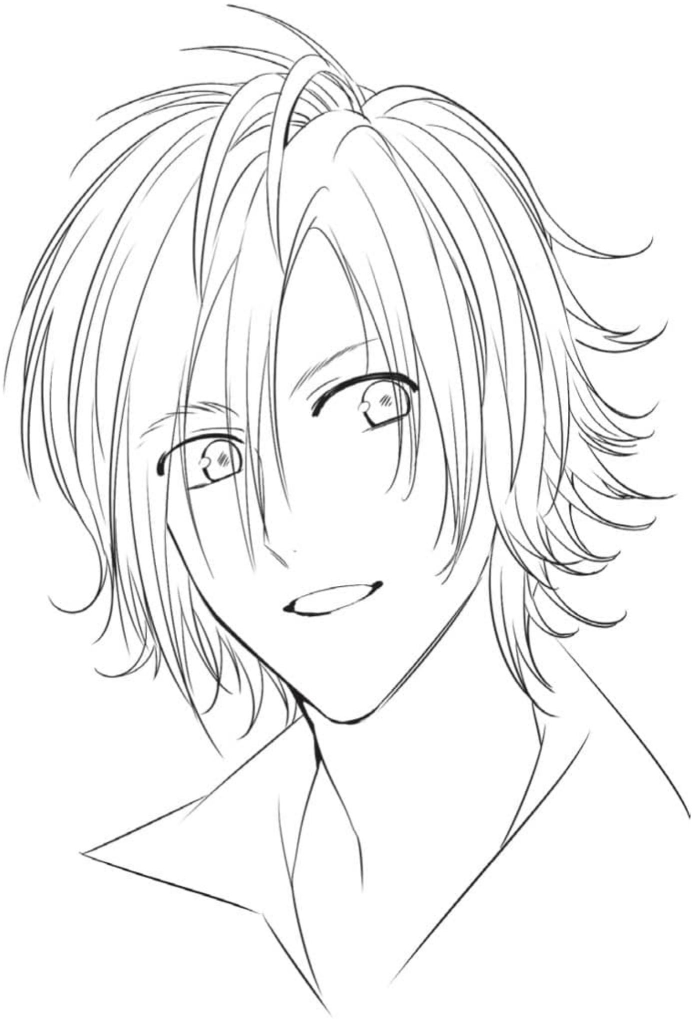
Sometimes fine, straight hair needs special efforts to give it volume and lift. Here, we look at three hairstyles that have added height in unique ways.



Straight hair can be "teased" to have lift. Teasing hair requires sections of hair to be combed against the grain. This creates knots that are hidden by brushing the top layers smooth. This is often done for formal hairstyles.



Adding extensions (pieces of artificial hair that are clipped into real hair) to fine hair is a popular way to make it look fuller. Here, extensions have been styled into stringy sections on top of the head.



Men can easily add volume to their hair with styling mousse (foam gel that holds the hair in place). Mousse is worked into wet hair and then the hair is blown dry. The hair will have a lot of height and bounce.

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CHAPTER

03

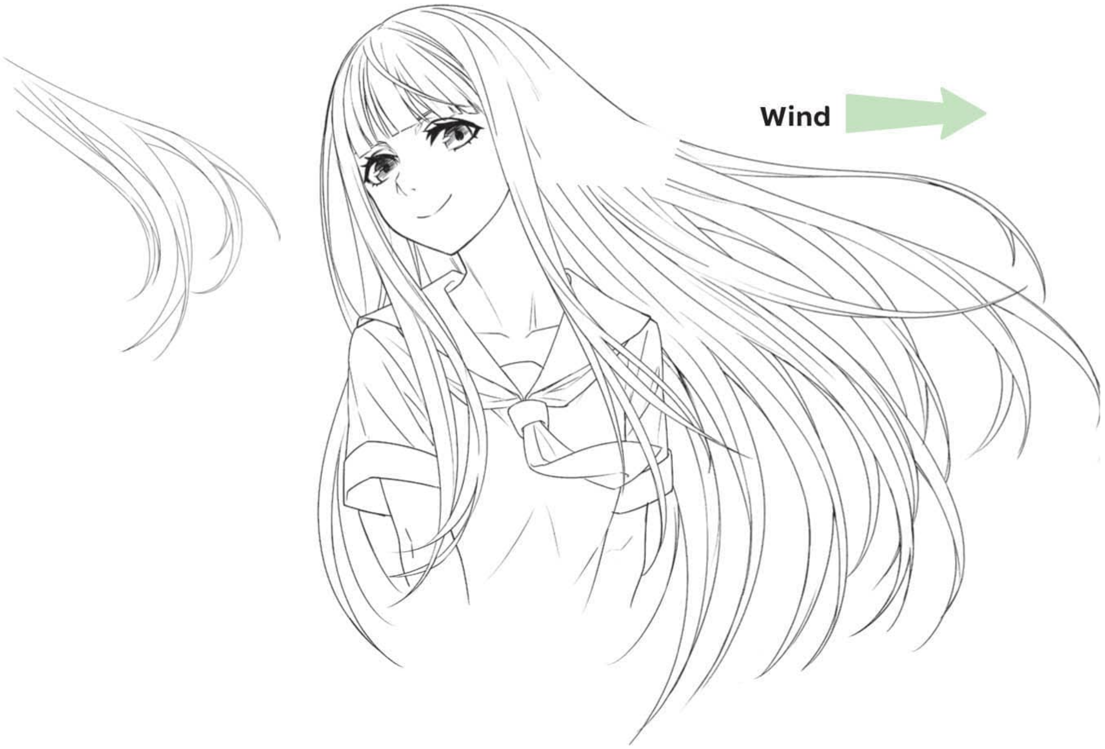
Hairstyles with Movement

Basic Types of Movement

Hair moves the most at the ends; the closer it is to the head, the less it moves. In order to draw various situations from daily life to battles, let’s first learn the basic types and characteristics of hair movements.

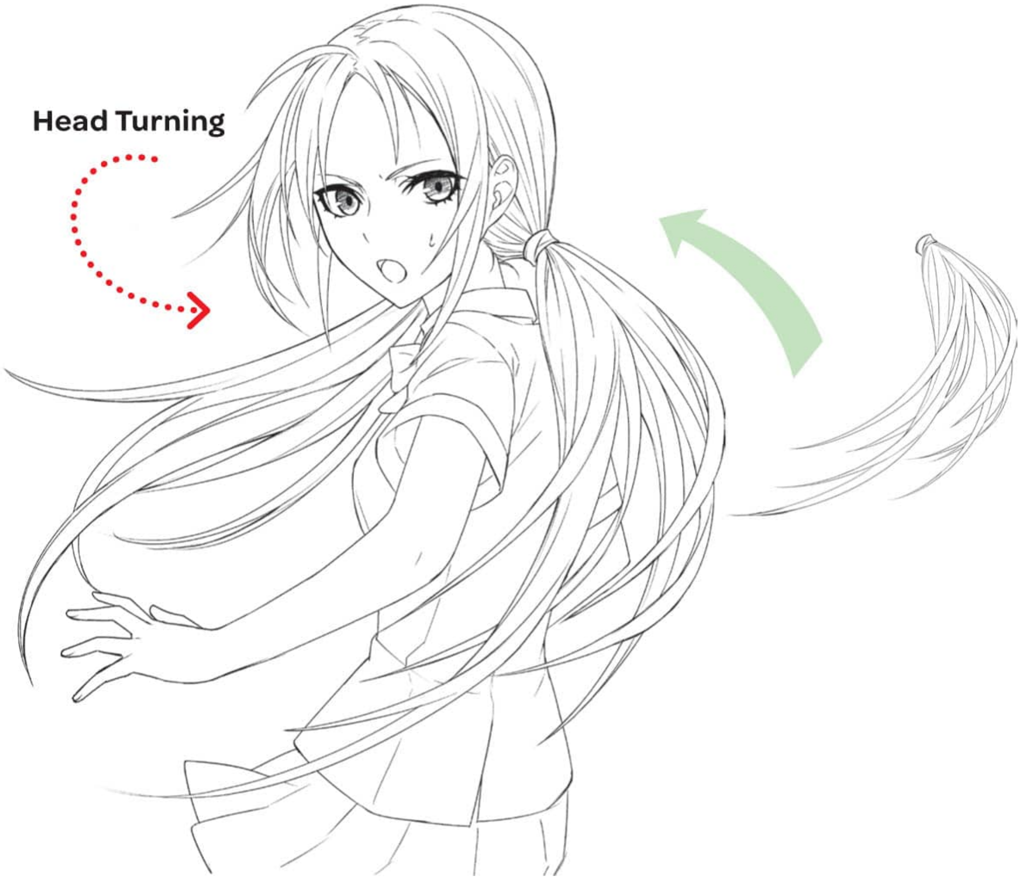
⇠ **Body Movement** ⇦ **Hair Movement**

Blowing



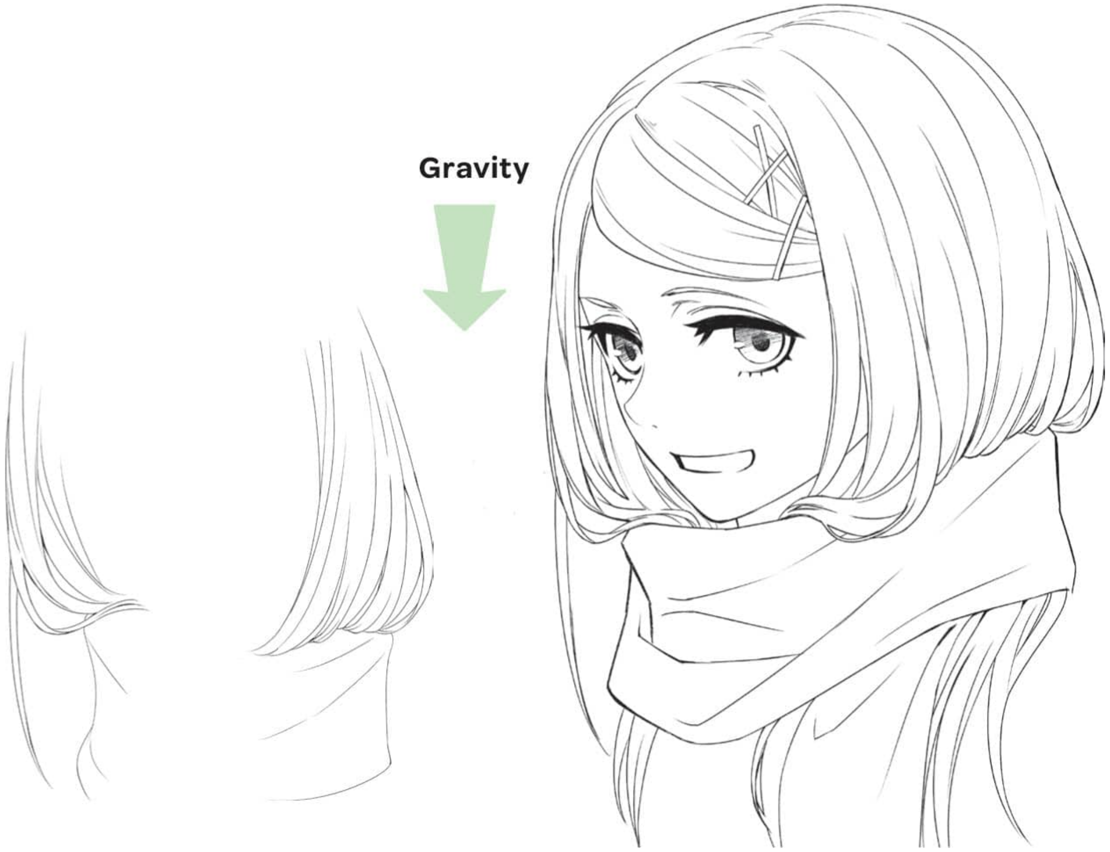
Hair blowing in the wind is one of the most common ways it moves. Drawing a gentle curve that spreads the hair out slightly will give the appearance of a soft breeze blowing. The stronger the wind, the straighter the hair will be blown.

Turning



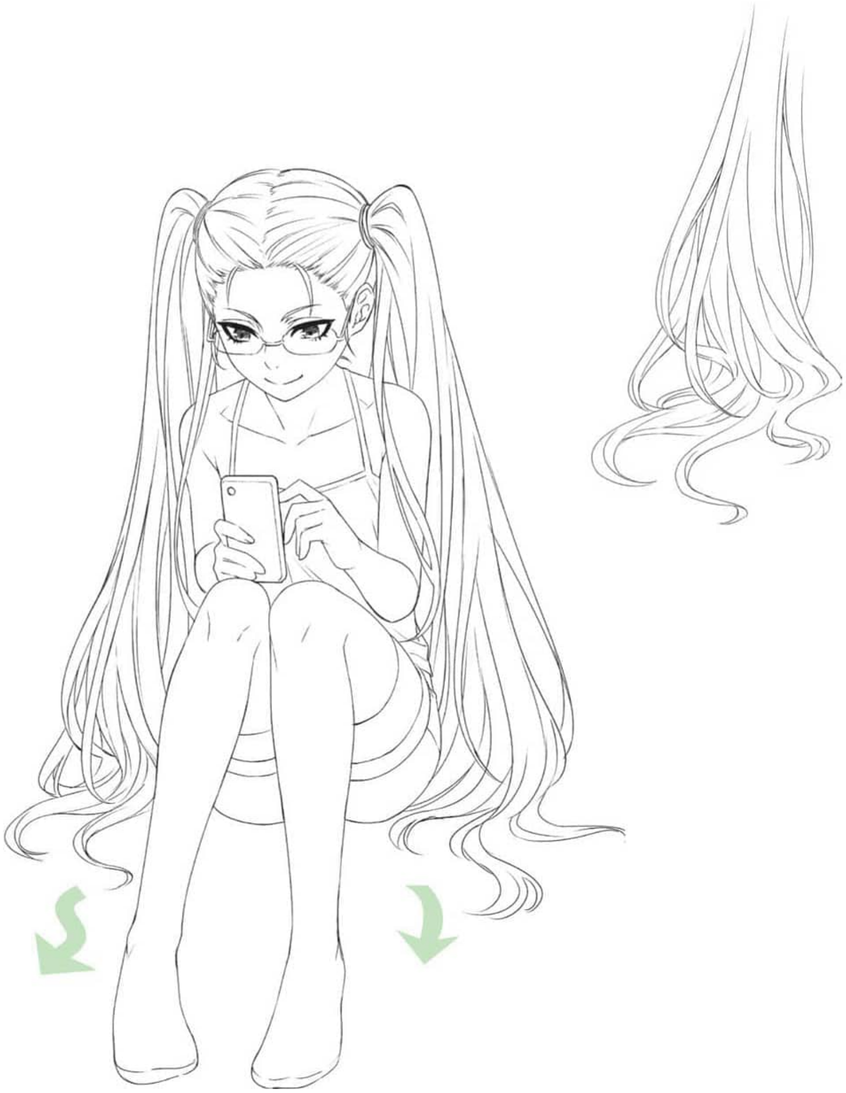
A quick body movement, such as suddenly turning the head, will cause hair to move, too. The hair trails behind the head and follows the movement, curving with the body.

Gathering



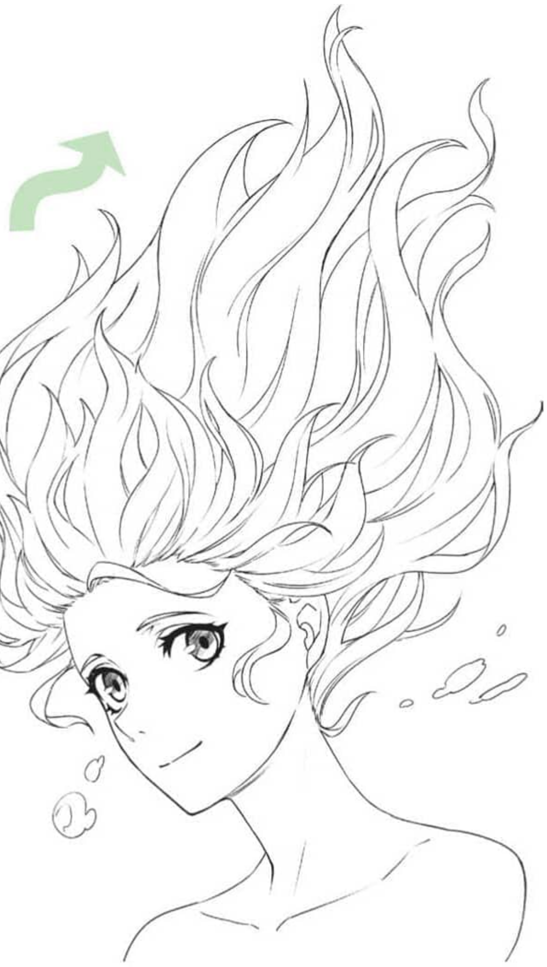
Long hair lightly curves when gathered in clothing, such as a scarf. When it is lifted by hand, the part that is not caught by a hand will hang down due to gravity.

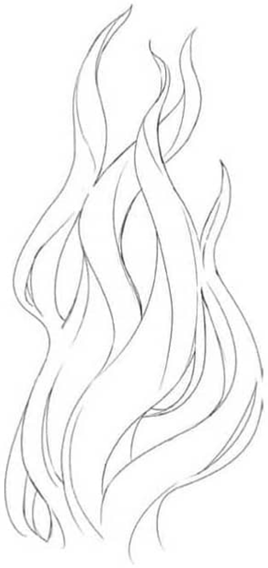
Pooling



When hair spreads out as it touches the floor or bed when the person sits or lies down, it is called pooling. The longer the hair, the more the ends will curve.

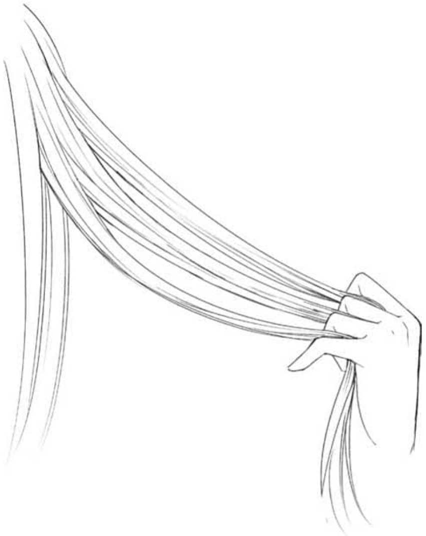
Floating

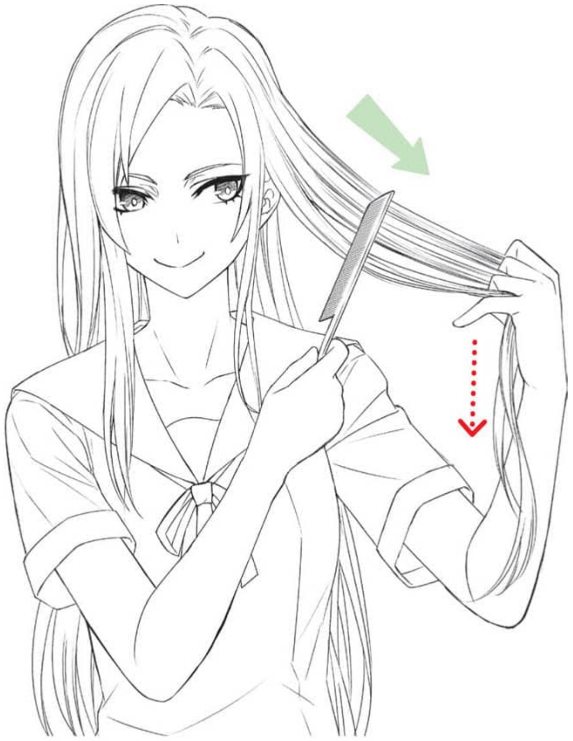




Hair that normally hangs down due to gravity rises upward when in water or when hovering in wind or air.

Pulling





Gravity has a strong impact on hair. When a character grasps or pulls on their hair, the hair stretches toward the position where it is grasped. The lower hair tends to hang and sag straight down.

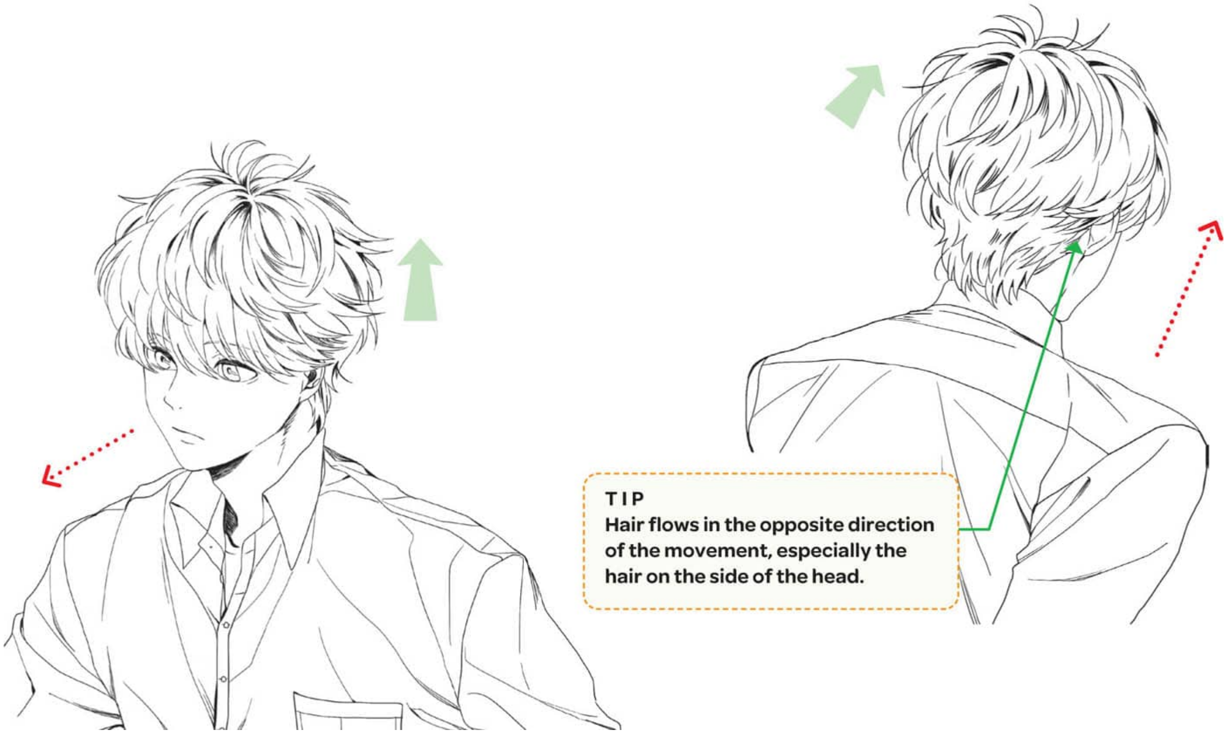
Combining Hair and Body Movement

Adding hair movement is vital when showing body motion in illustrations. If the body is moving in a drawing and the hair is not reacting, the motion won't be believable. Here, we explain the action-reaction effects when combining movement and hair.

⇠ **Body Movement** ⬅ **Hair Movement**

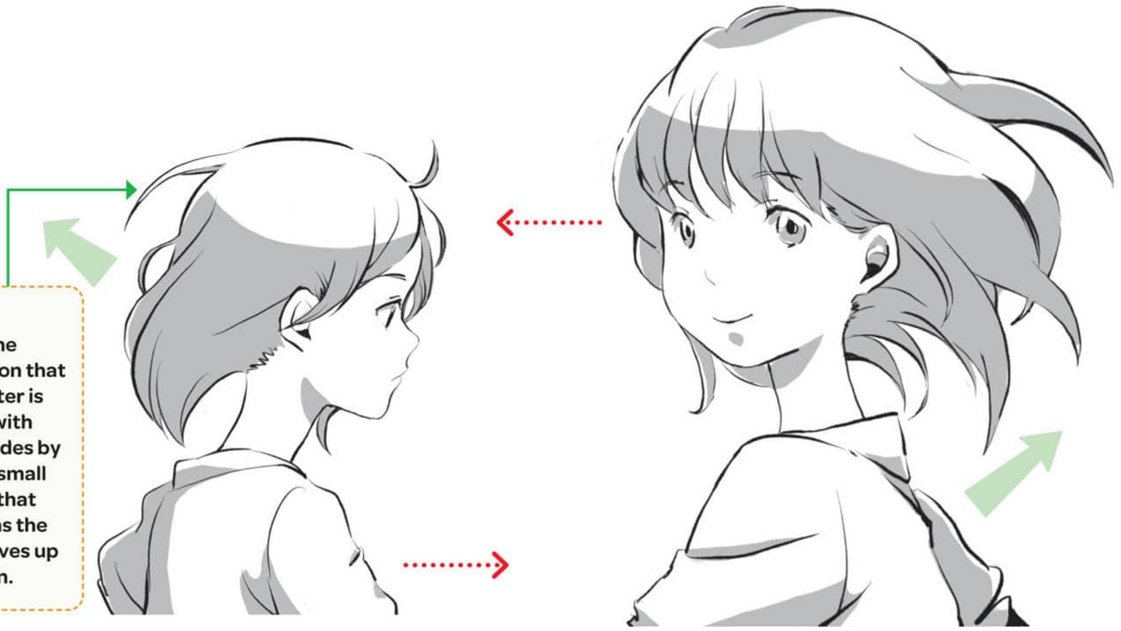
Walking

Walking is one of the most basic human movements. The way the hair moves changes depending on the length of the hair, the walking speed, and the mood at that time.



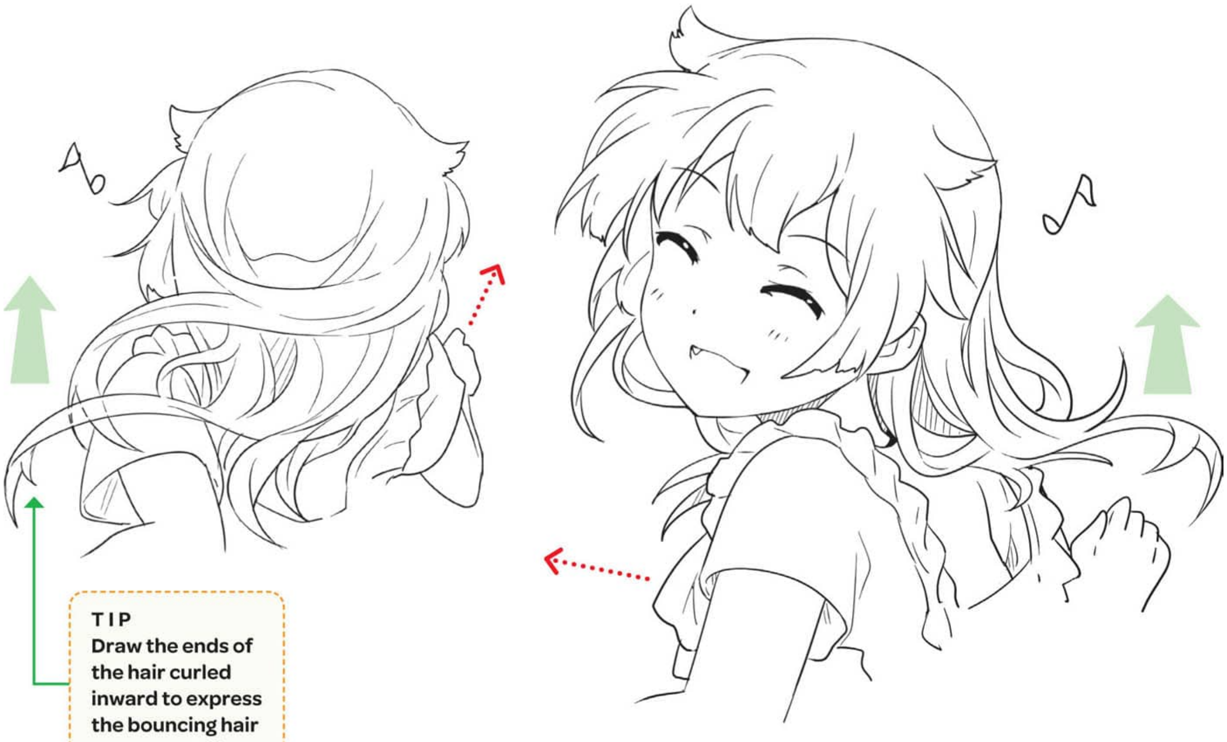
TIP
Hair flows in the opposite direction of the movement, especially the hair on the side of the head.

With short hair, there is almost no flowy movement of the hair when walking, but the ends of hair will bounce up and down around the top of the head and blow upward.



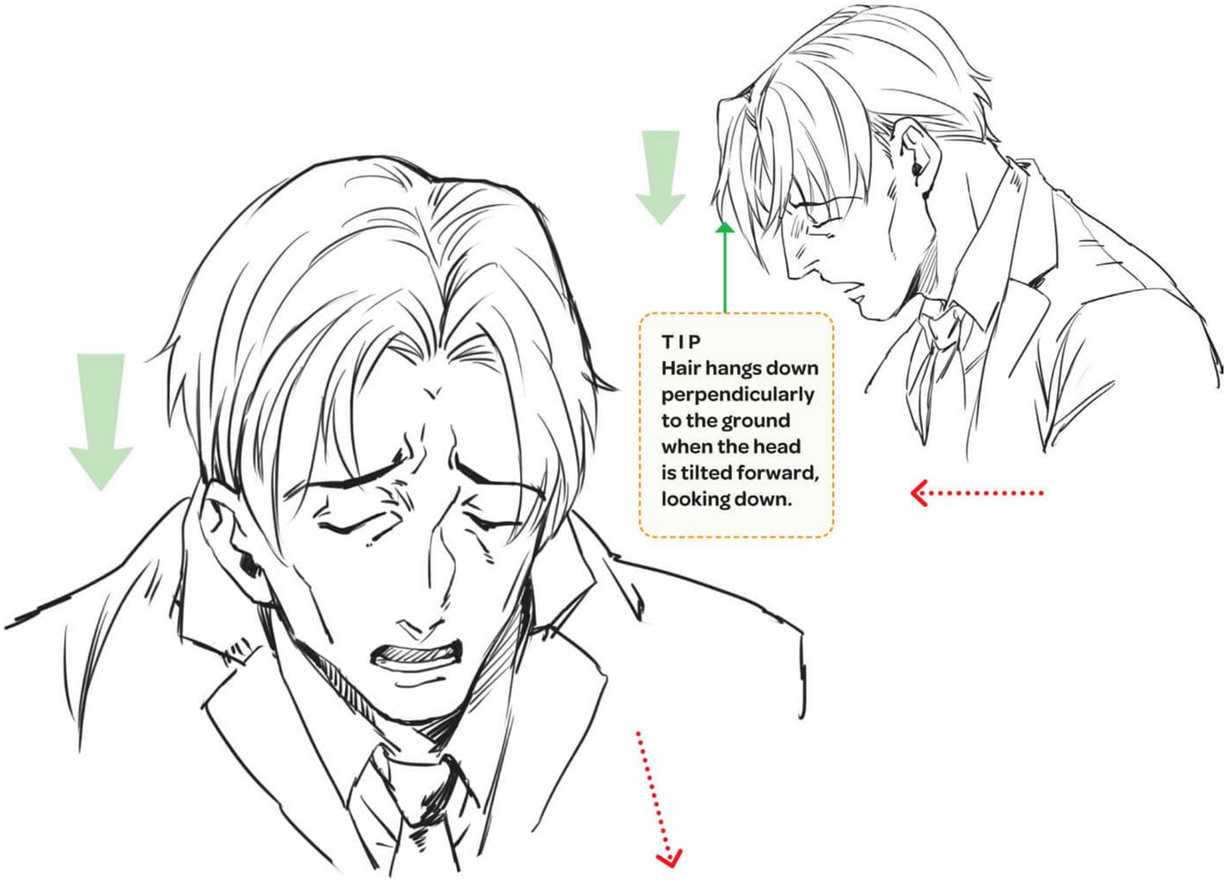
TIP
Create the impression that a character is walking with large strides by drawing small bundles that bounce as the head moves up and down.

Long hair flows backward when walking, as if blown by the wind. The weight of the hair causes the ends to point downward.



TIP
Draw the ends of the hair curled inward to express the bouncing hair movement, like a whip.

By drawing hair that sways up, down, left, and right intensely, you can give the impression that the character is joyfully skipping.

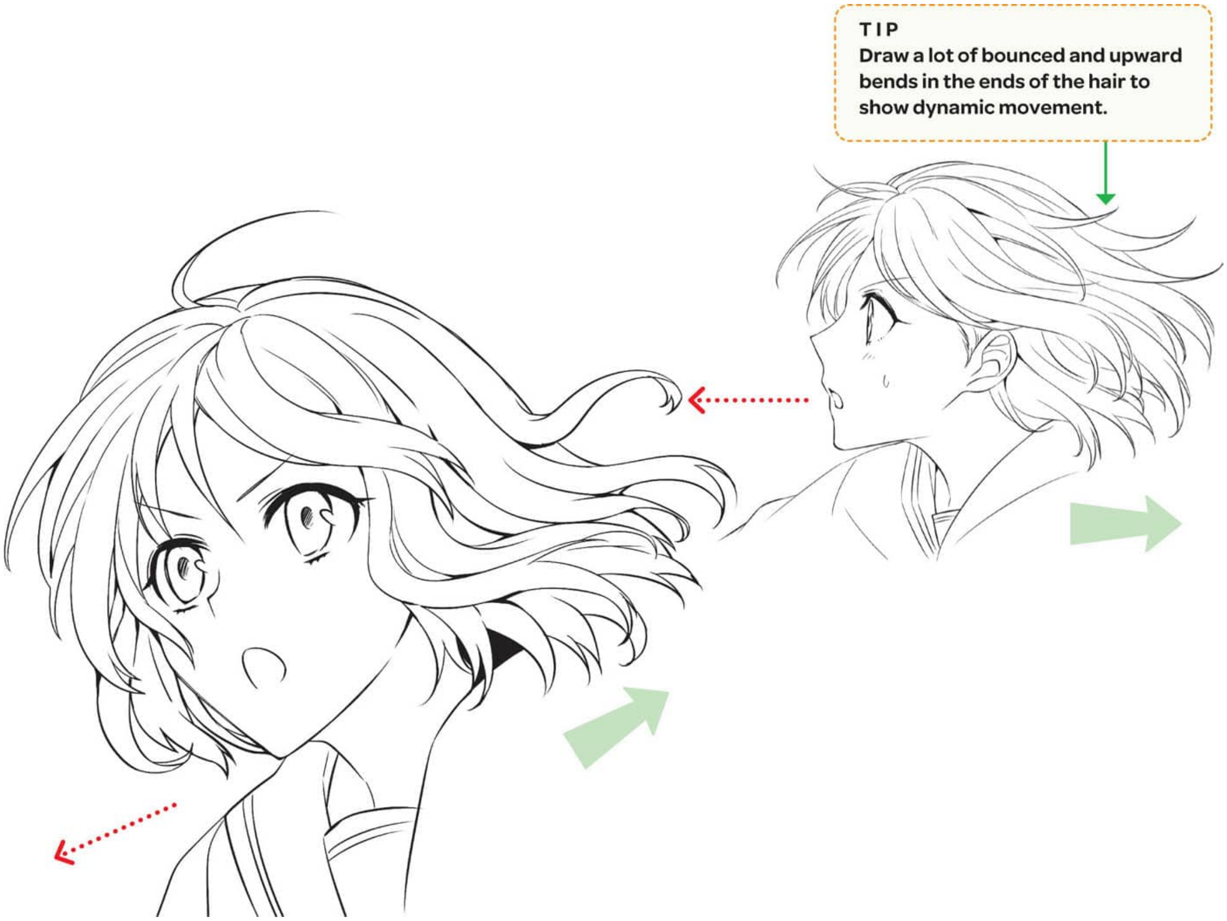


TIP
Hair hangs down perpendicularly to the ground when the head is tilted forward, looking down.

When a character walks slowly, the hair hangs downward and there is very little movement. The bangs on the face and the hair on the crown of the head sag with the mood of the scene.

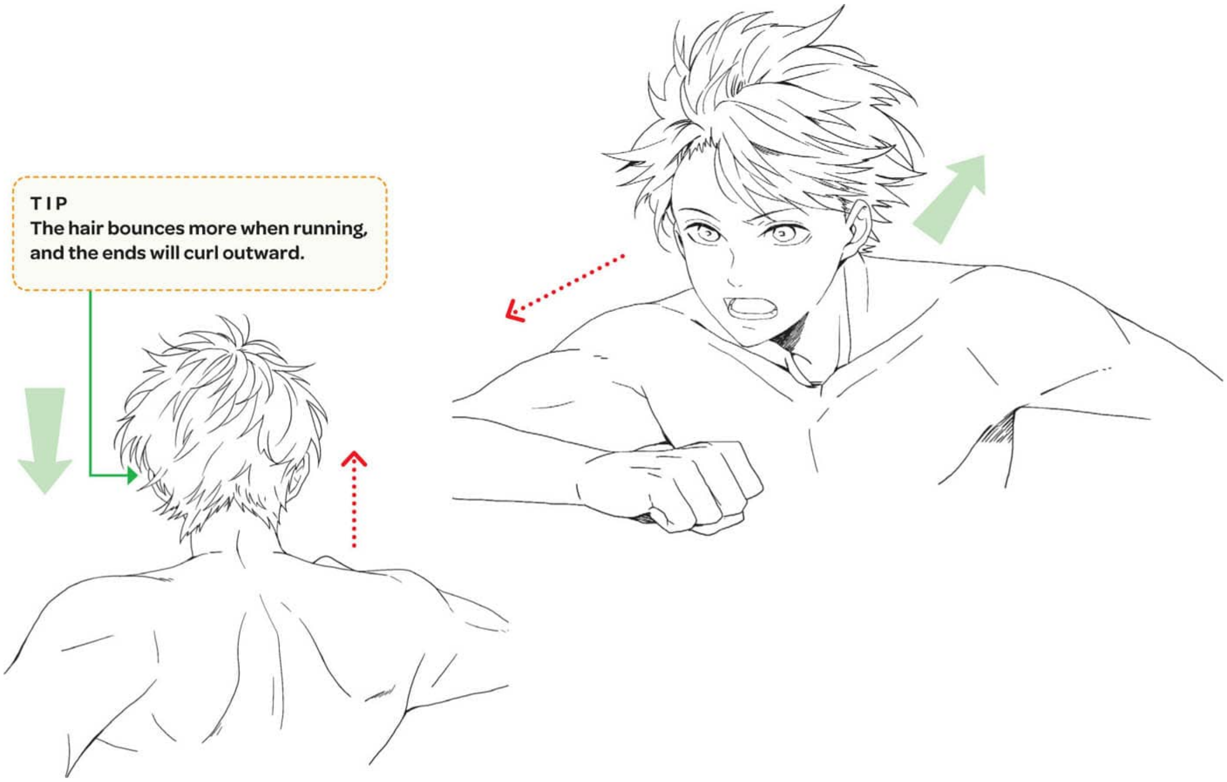
Running

When running, the body moves more vigorously than when walking, and the hair bounces and floats as a result. As the head leans forward in a running stance, the hair on the back of the head is closer to the neck.



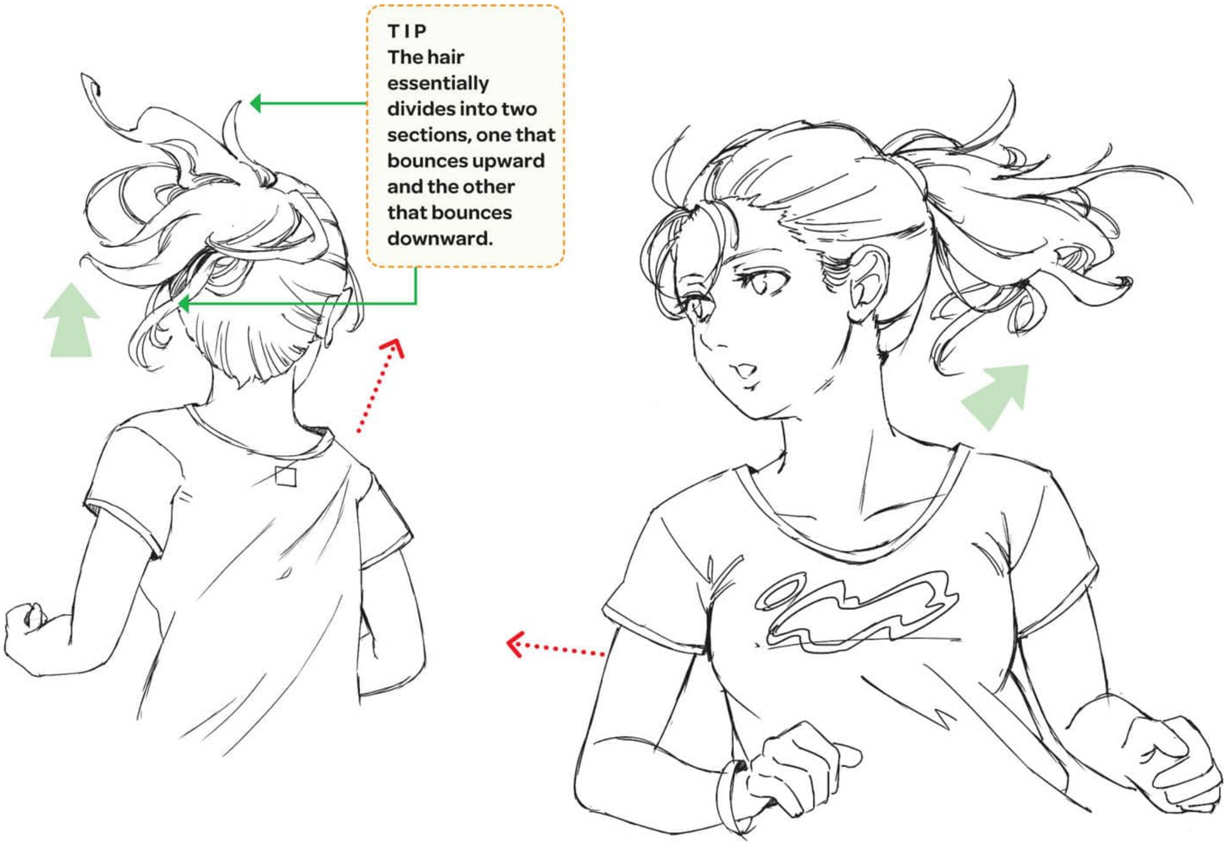
TIP
Draw a lot of bounced and upward bends in the ends of the hair to show dynamic movement.

Due to the forward movement of the body and the air resistance that hinders it, the majority of the hair blows backward from around eye level.



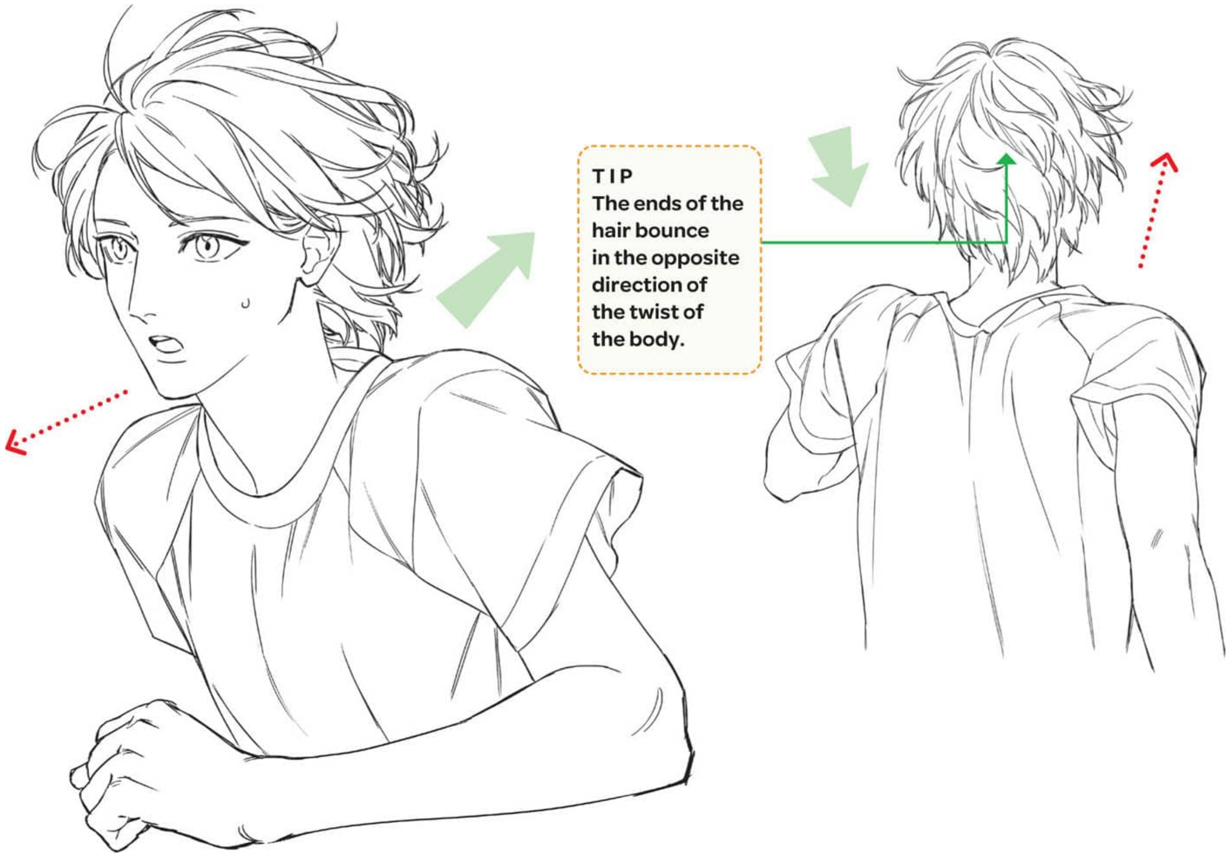
TIP
The hair bounces more when running, and the ends will curl outward.

The bangs are lifted by air resistance, and flow backward along with the top hair. The left and right bangs flow to the sides.



TIP
The hair essentially divides into two sections, one that bounces upward and the other that bounces downward.

By rhythmically bouncing the ponytail and loose bangs up and down, it shows this character is jogging at a constant pace.

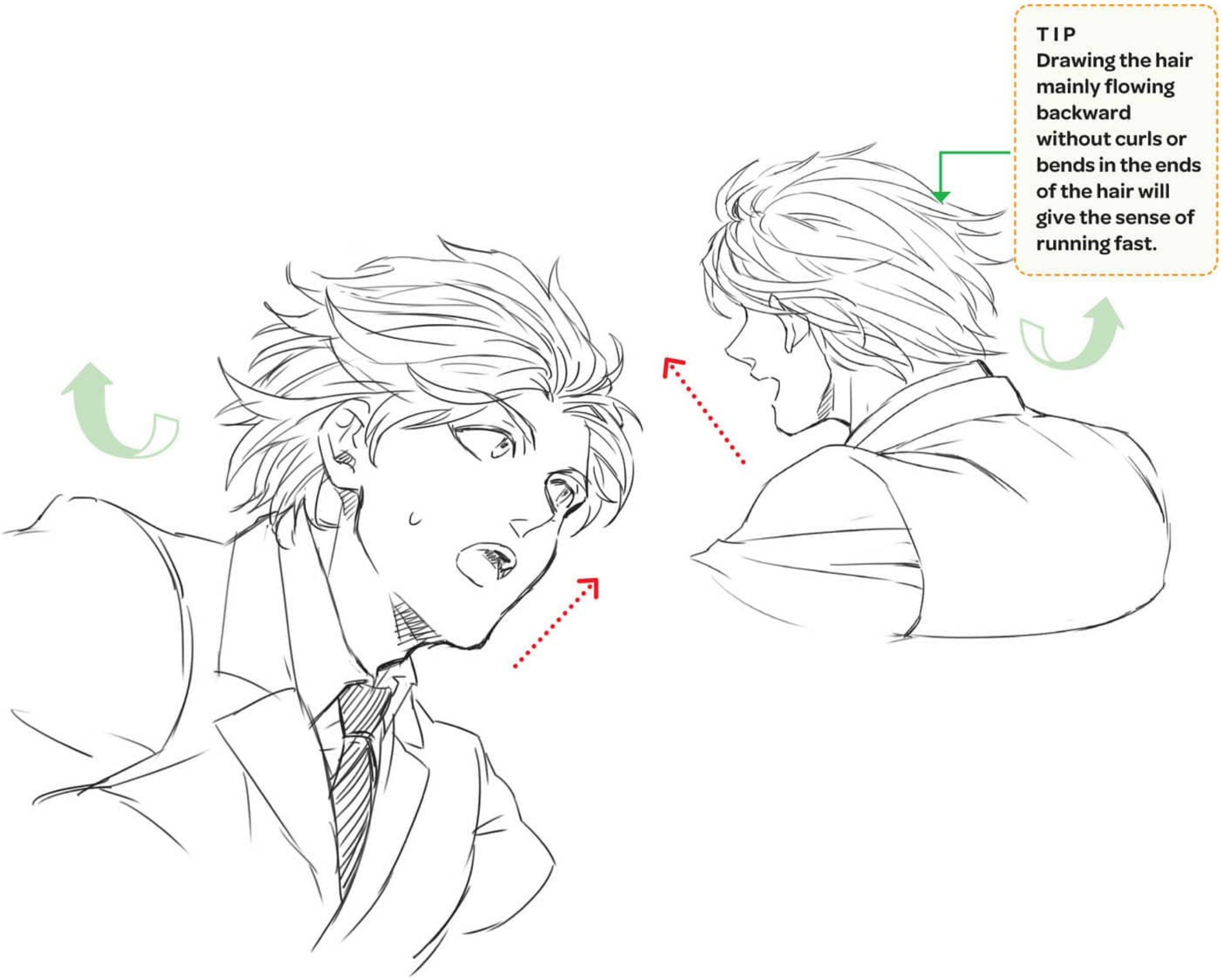


TIP
The ends of the hair bounce in the opposite direction of the twist of the body.

When running, the body leans forward, and the hair flows backward. Spread the hair out radially from the hairline of the bangs.

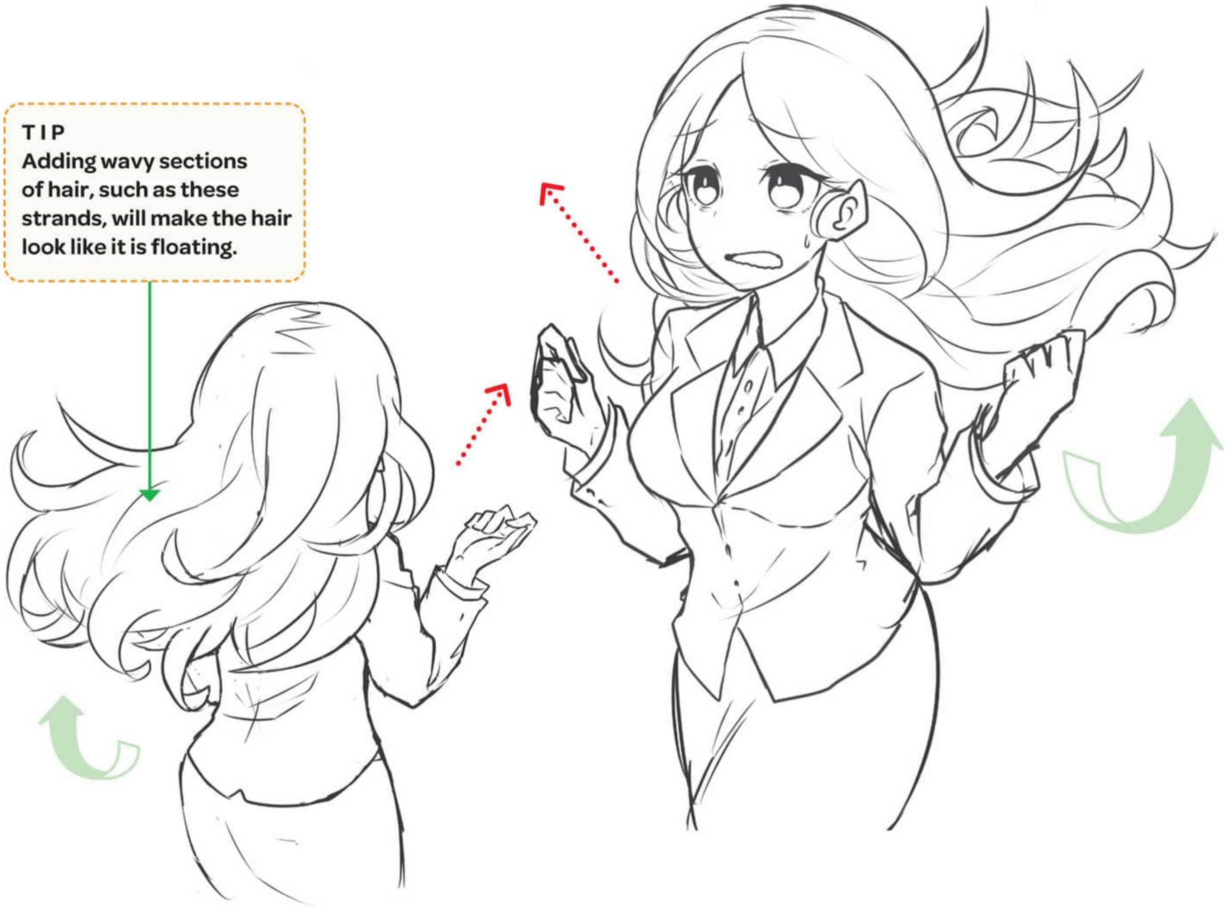
Going Up Stairs

The movement of going up stairs is reflected in the upward angle of the face and the forward-leaning posture of the body. In addition to the same up-and-down movement as walking, the ends of the hair bounce upward.



TIP
Drawing the hair mainly flowing backward without curls or bends in the ends of the hair will give the sense of running fast.

By drawing the hair flowing back from the bangs to the back of the head, it looks like this character is running up stairs.

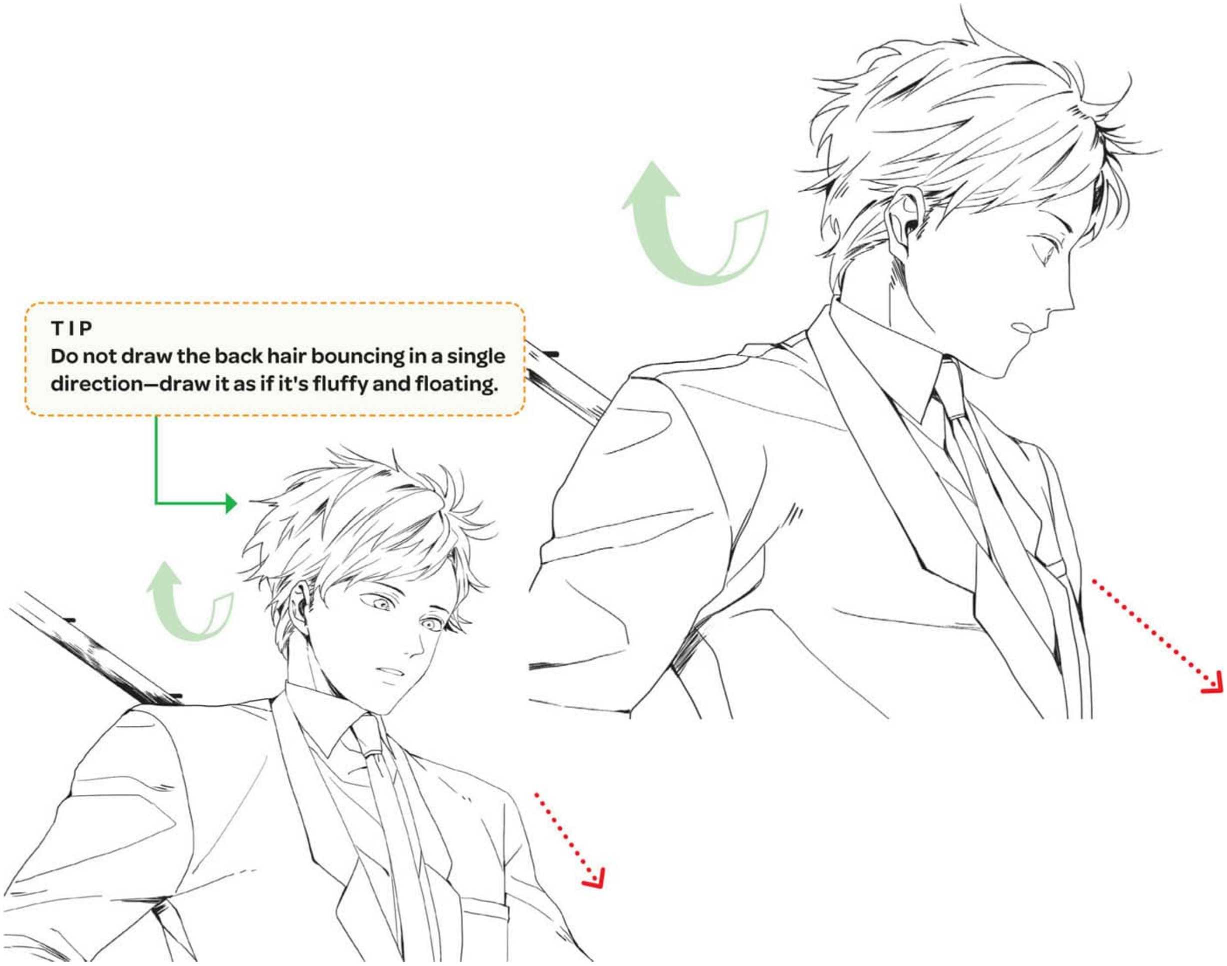


TIP
Adding wavy sections of hair, such as these strands, will make the hair look like it is floating.

For longer hair, increase the intensity of the moment by curling the ends of the hair closer to the shoulders. The hair is largely blown behind, and the ends of the hair bounce up and down as the body moves up and down.

Going Down Stairs

When going down stairs, the chin is pulled in and the upper body tilts slightly backward as the head looks down. The hair will have a backward flow that looks like it is being blown back by wind.

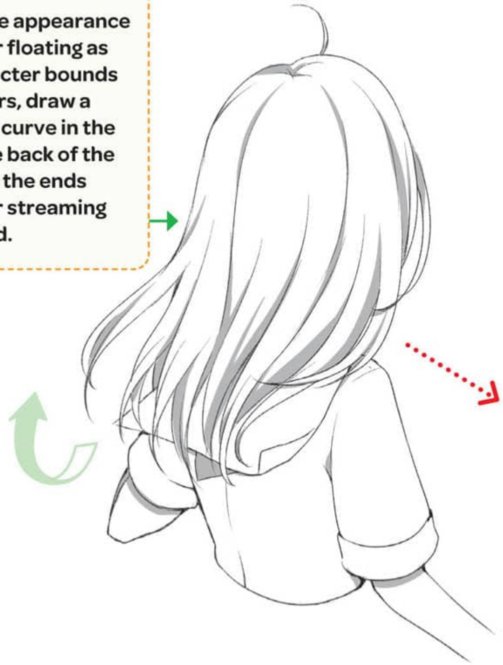


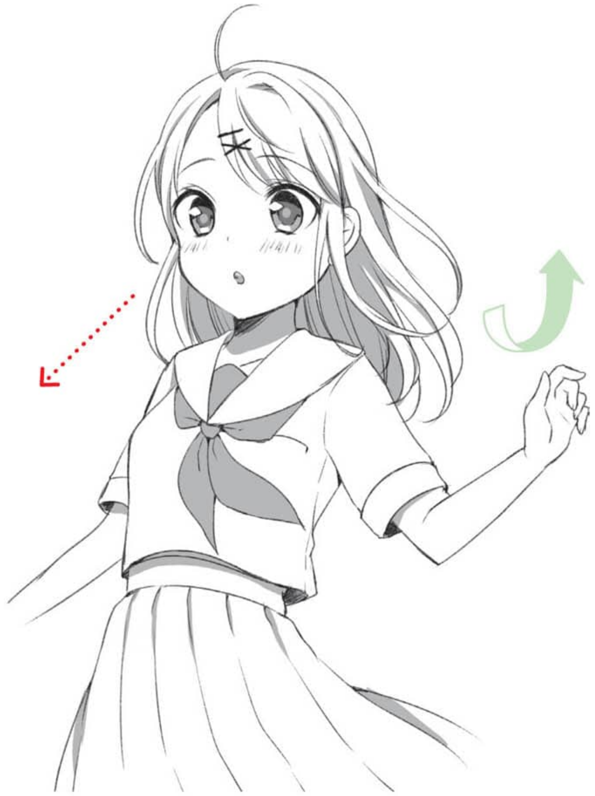
TIP

Do not draw the back hair bouncing in a single direction—draw it as if it's fluffy and floating.

By drawing the bangs bouncing upward, you get the sense of the air resistance caused by walking down stairs.

TIP
To give the appearance of the hair floating as this character bounds down stairs, draw a S-shaped curve in the hair at the back of the head, and the ends of the hair streaming downward.

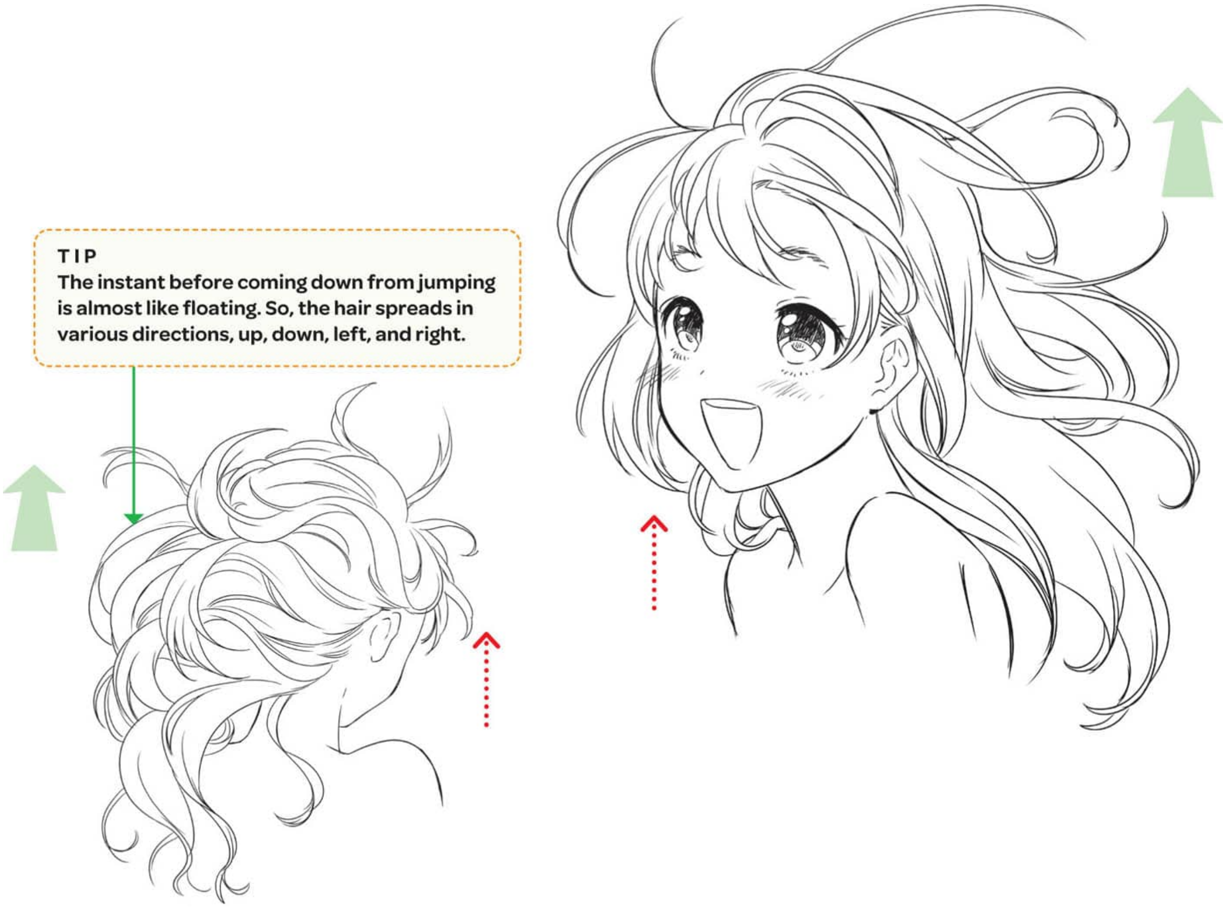




Here, the bangs are bouncing according to the vertical movement of the body. The back hair floats inward, as if it were exposed to wind, creating a space between it and the shoulders, and the end of the hair curls inward. This implies the character is bouncing down stairs.

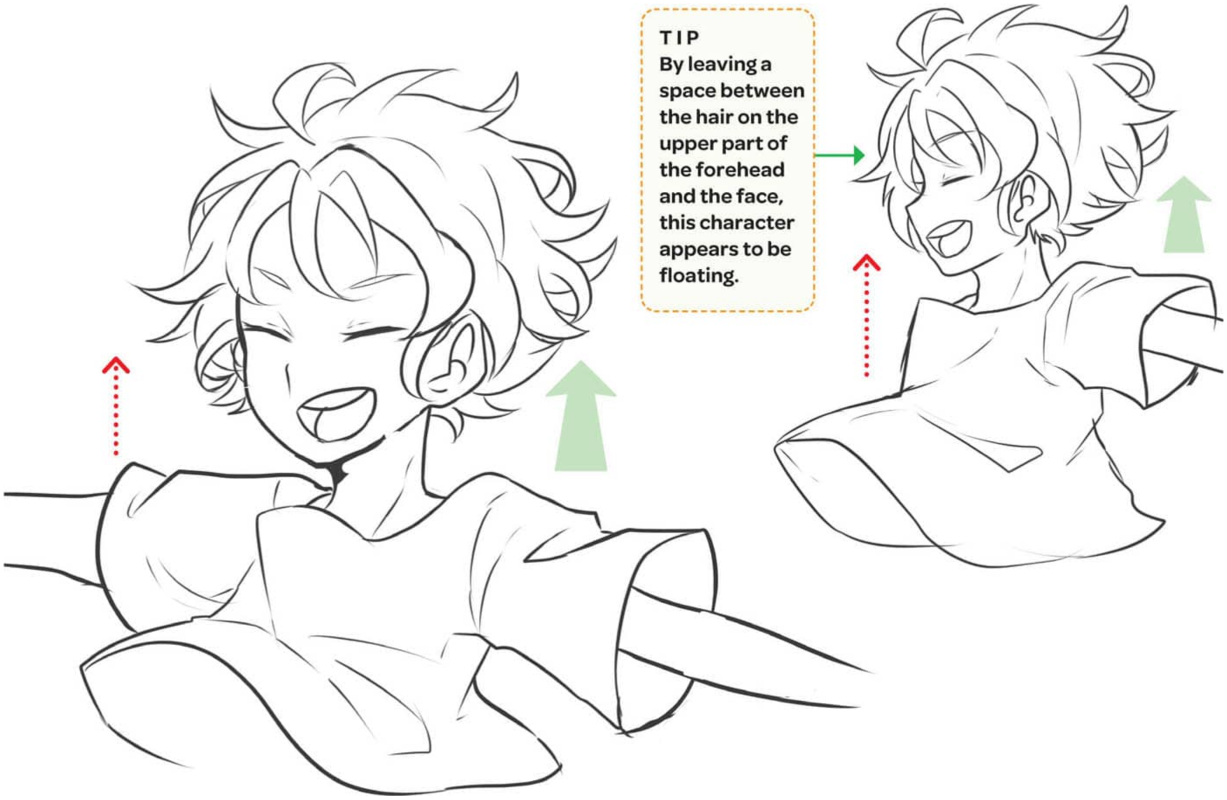
Jumping

Jumping involves three different movements: starting, reaching the top, and coming down. At any stage, the movement of hair increases toward the ends.



TIP
The instant before coming down from jumping is almost like floating. So, the hair spreads in various directions, up, down, left, and right.

Draw the bangs rising upwards and sideways, and the back hair curling to express a feeling of floating.

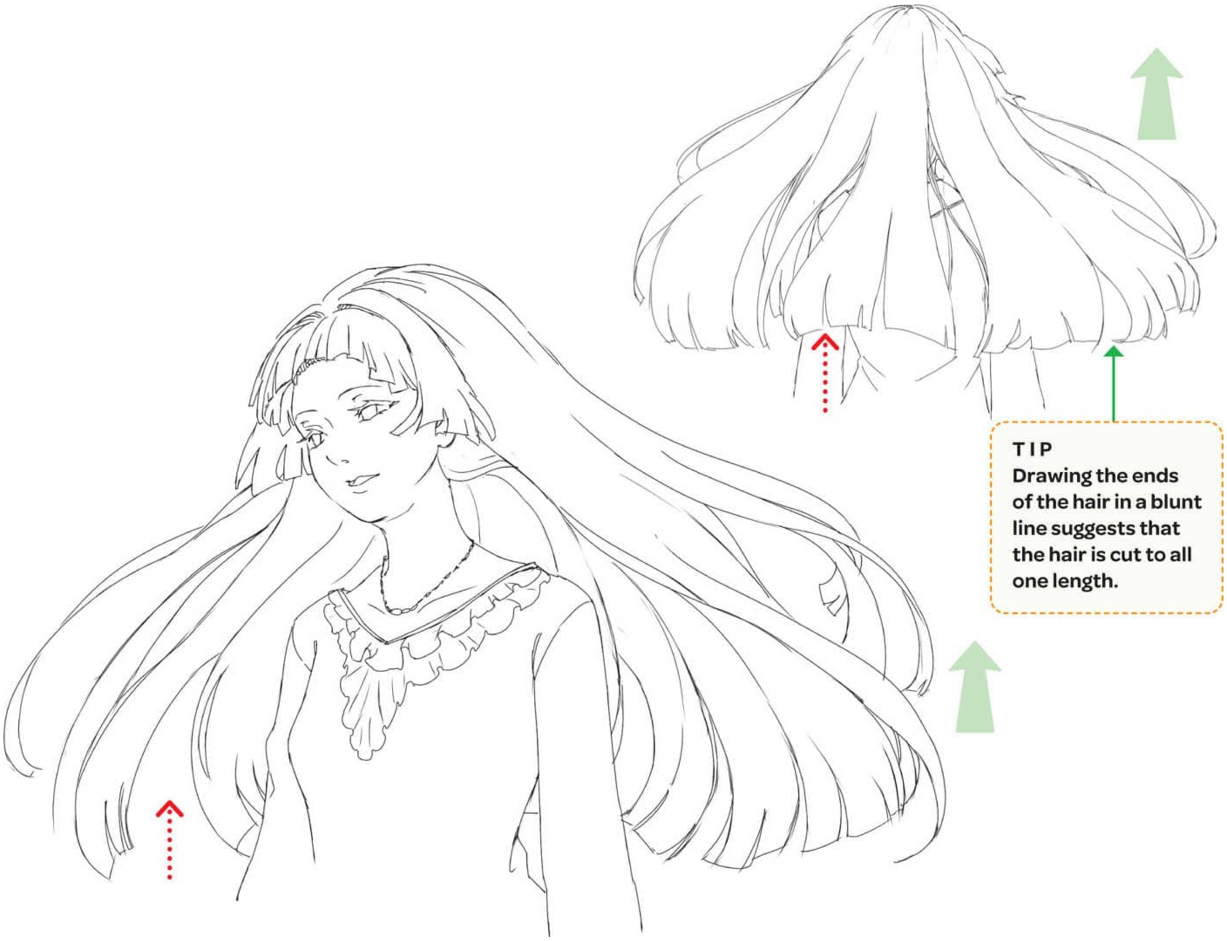


TIP
By leaving a space between the hair on the upper part of the forehead and the face, this character appears to be floating.

When jumping, even short hair has volume. It spreads in various directions, up, down, left, and right. In particular, the volume in the horizontal direction is larger than that in the vertical direction.

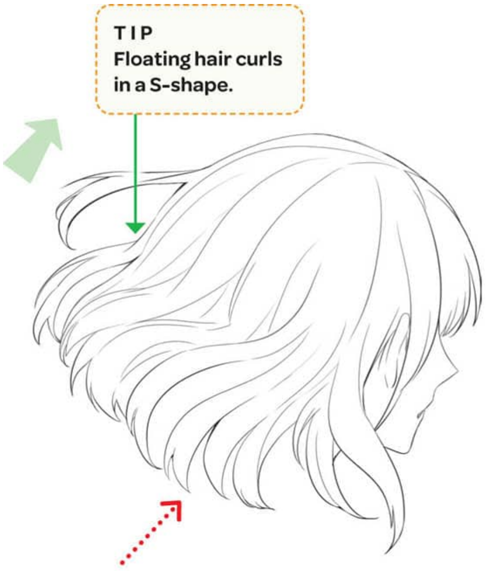
Floating

To give the sense a character is floating, imagine the hair is being lifted from below, and sections of hair are gently spread out in a radial pattern. The hair at the ends spreads more widely, and there is less movement as it gets closer to the head.

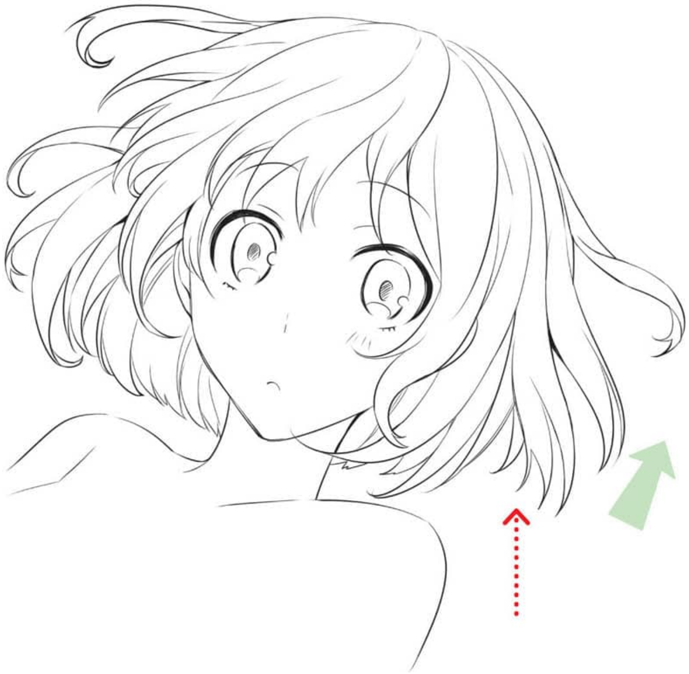


TIP
Drawing the ends of the hair in a blunt line suggests that the hair is cut to all one length.

Gravity has no effect on hair when a character is floating. The hair is free to spread out around the body. However, it spreads more at the ends than near the head.



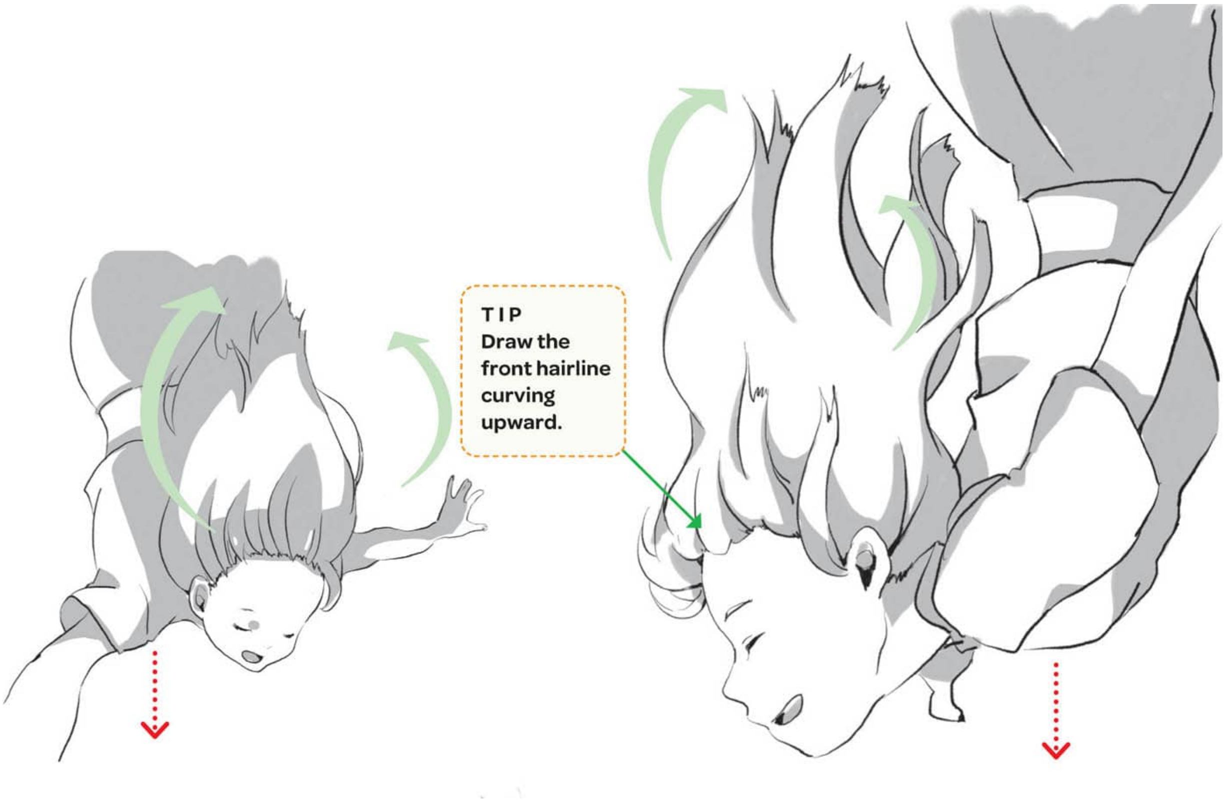
TIP
Floating hair curls in a S-shape.



When floating, short hair expands like a balloon filling with air. Draw the bangs light and with diagonal flow.

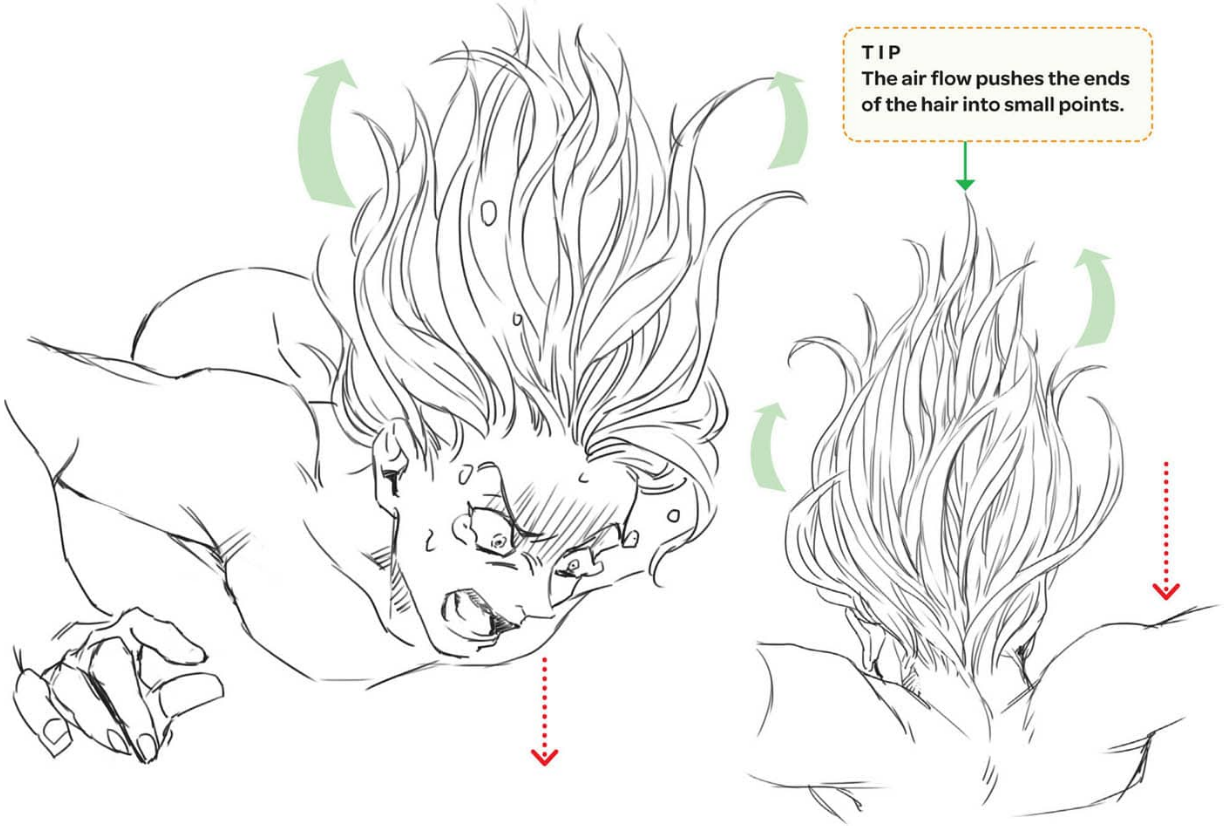
Falling Through Air

When characters fall through the air, such as when skydiving, the force of the wind will blow the hair completely backward. When you fall with the face up, hair spreads more sparsely and wraps around the face.



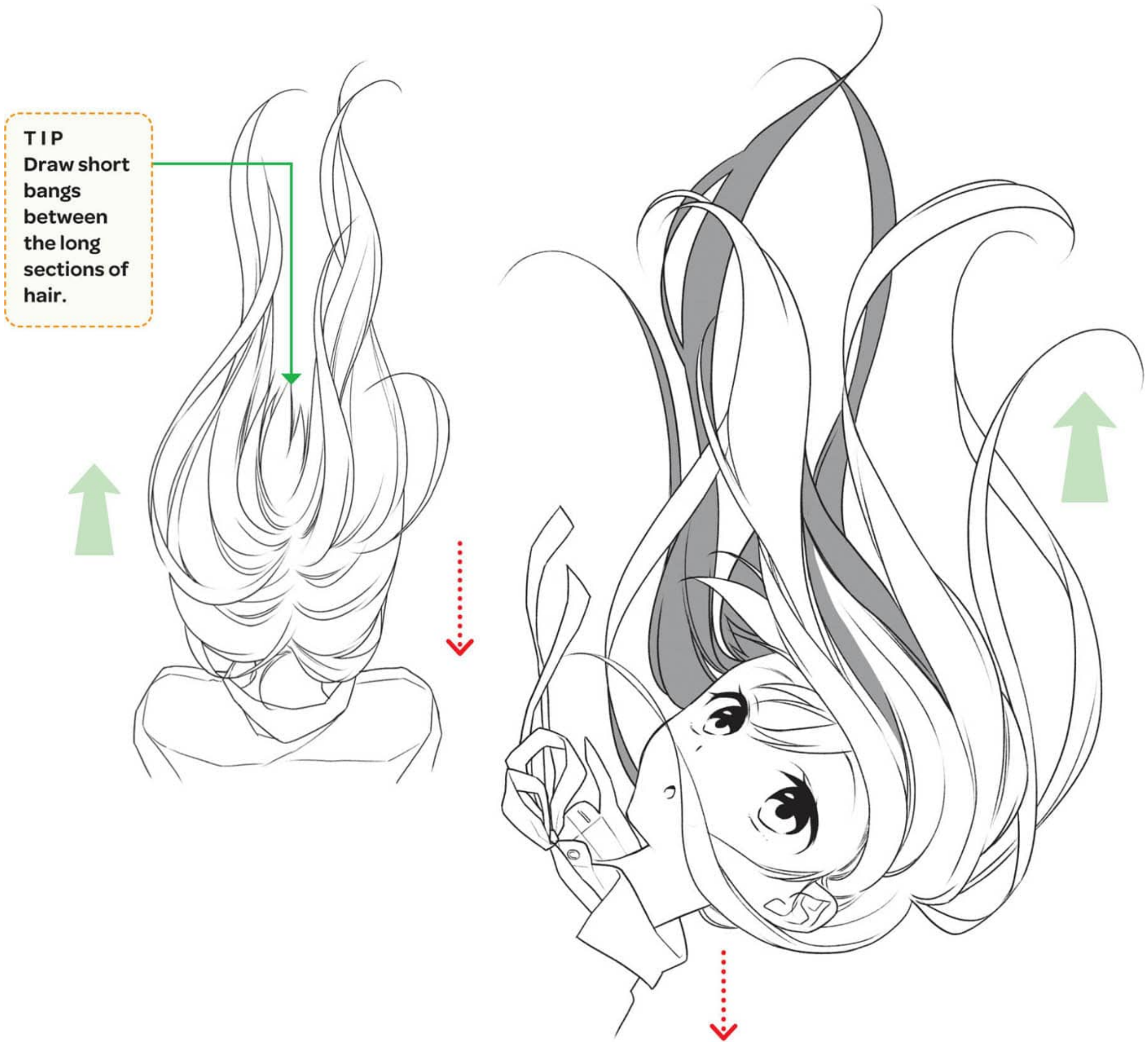
TIP
Draw the front hairline curving upward.

All the hair is flowing upward due to wind pressure from below. The ends of the hair come together to form a cone shape.



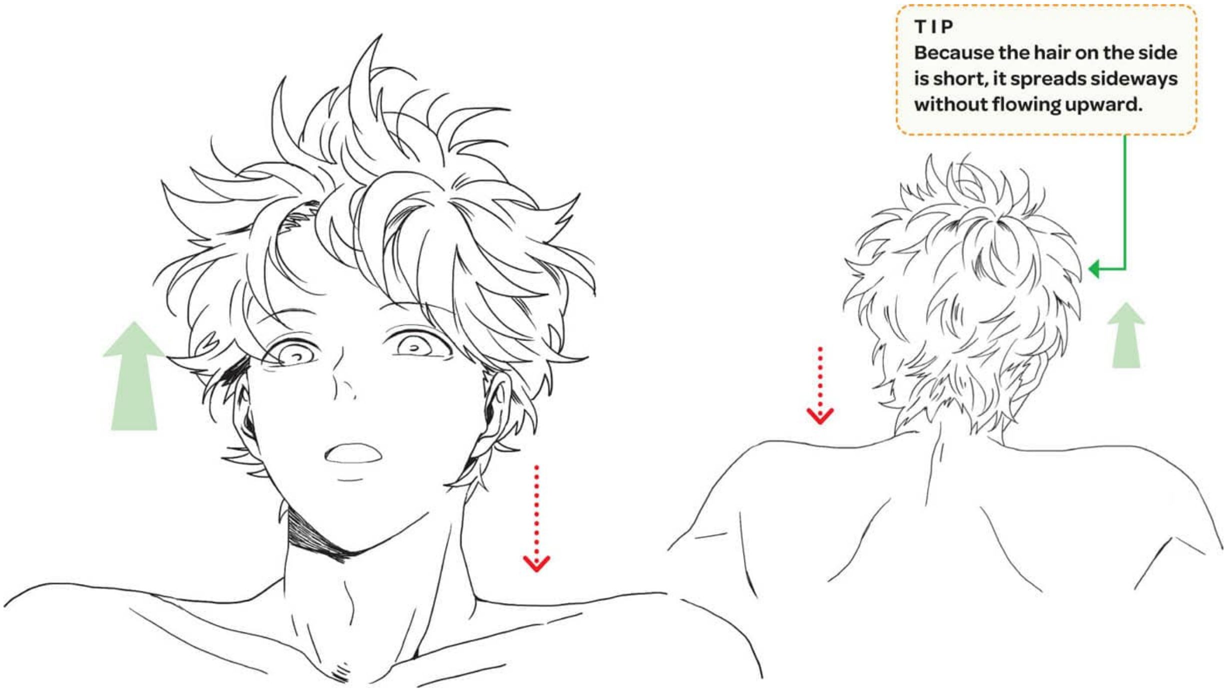
TIP
The air flow pushes the ends of the hair into small points.

While the hair is flowing almost directly upward, sections of hair are swaying from side to side due to the influence of air resistance.



TIP
Draw short bangs between the long sections of hair.

When falling face up, the back hair flows upward over the crown and neck, similar to the flow of air.

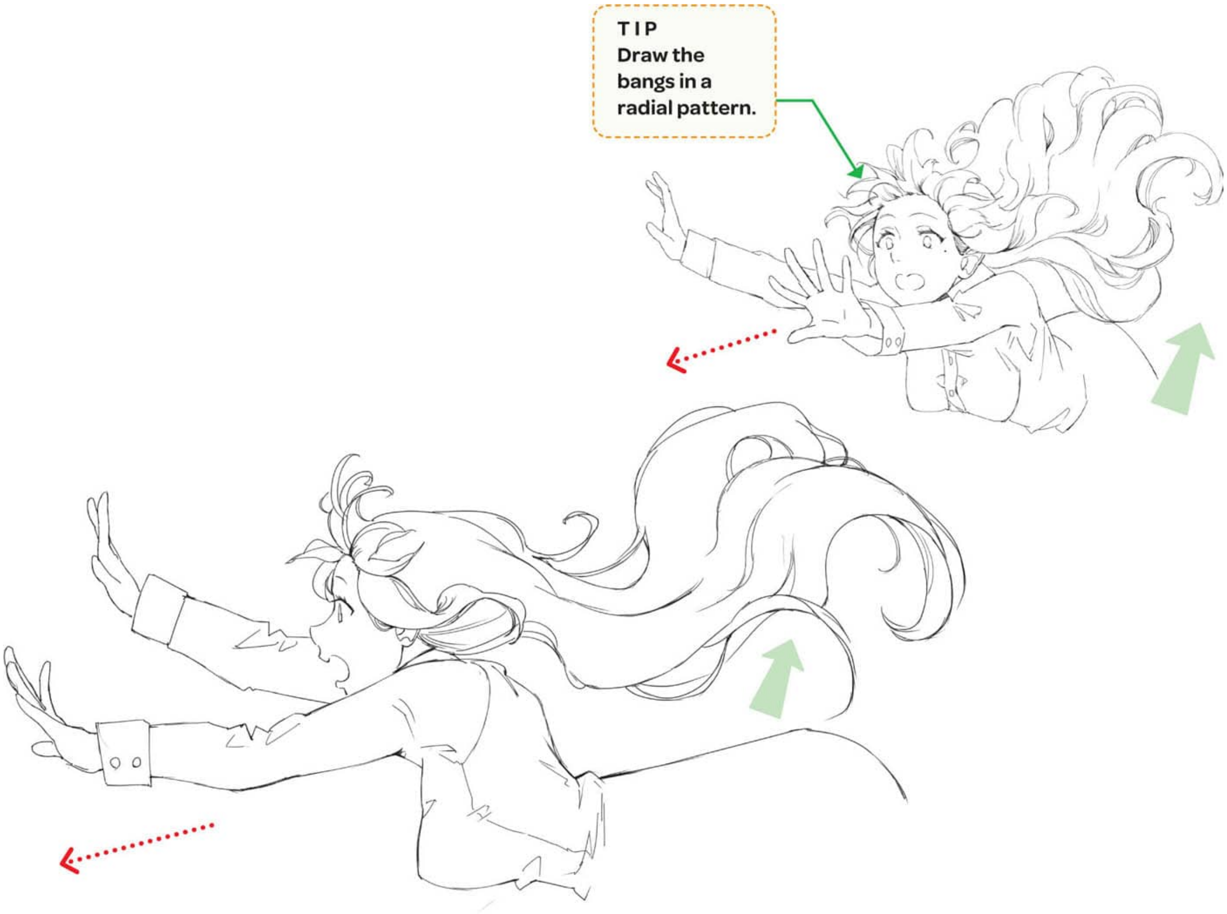


TIP
Because the hair on the side is short, it spreads sideways without flowing upward.

The bangs and top hair are raised from the side to suggest falling.

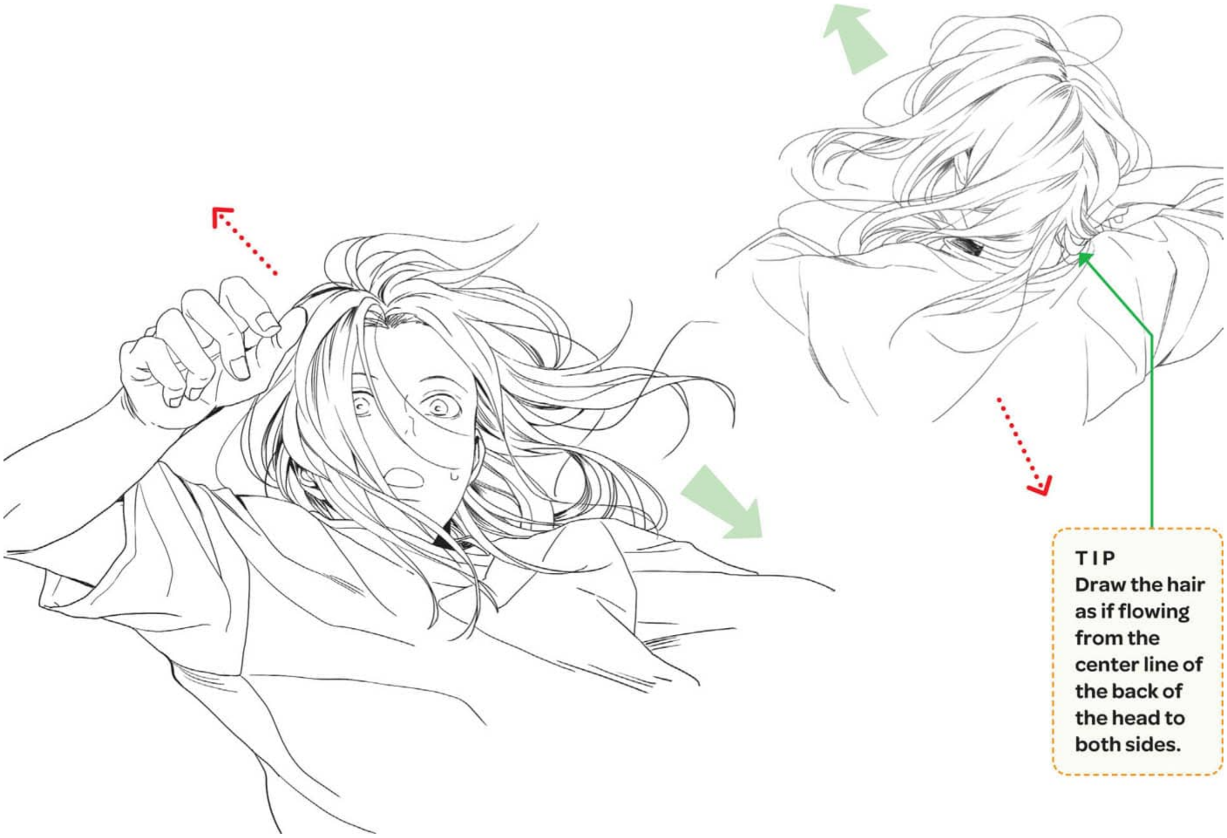
Falling Down

Whether a character has tripped or been pushed, the action of the hair when falling down is different than when falling through the air. The hair will fly up laterally, not vertically.



TIP
Draw the bangs in a radial pattern.

In this fall forward, the bangs rise upward due to air resistance and the back hair reacts to the movement of the body. If you round the ends of the back hair, you can imply a more dramatic fall.

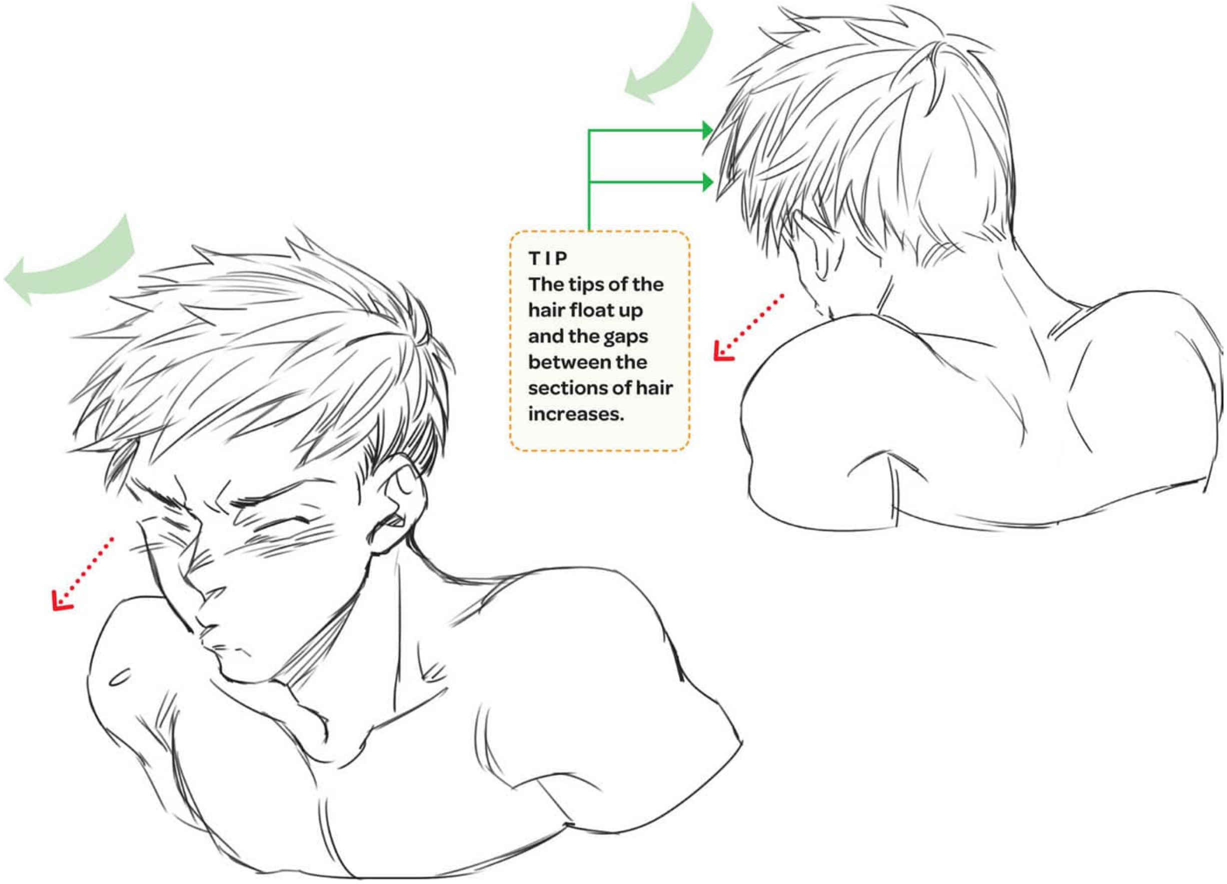


TIP
Draw the hair as if flowing from the center line of the back of the head to both sides.

There is little air resistance on the hair at the moment of falling, so draw a gentle flow of hair while imagining a fluttering breeze.

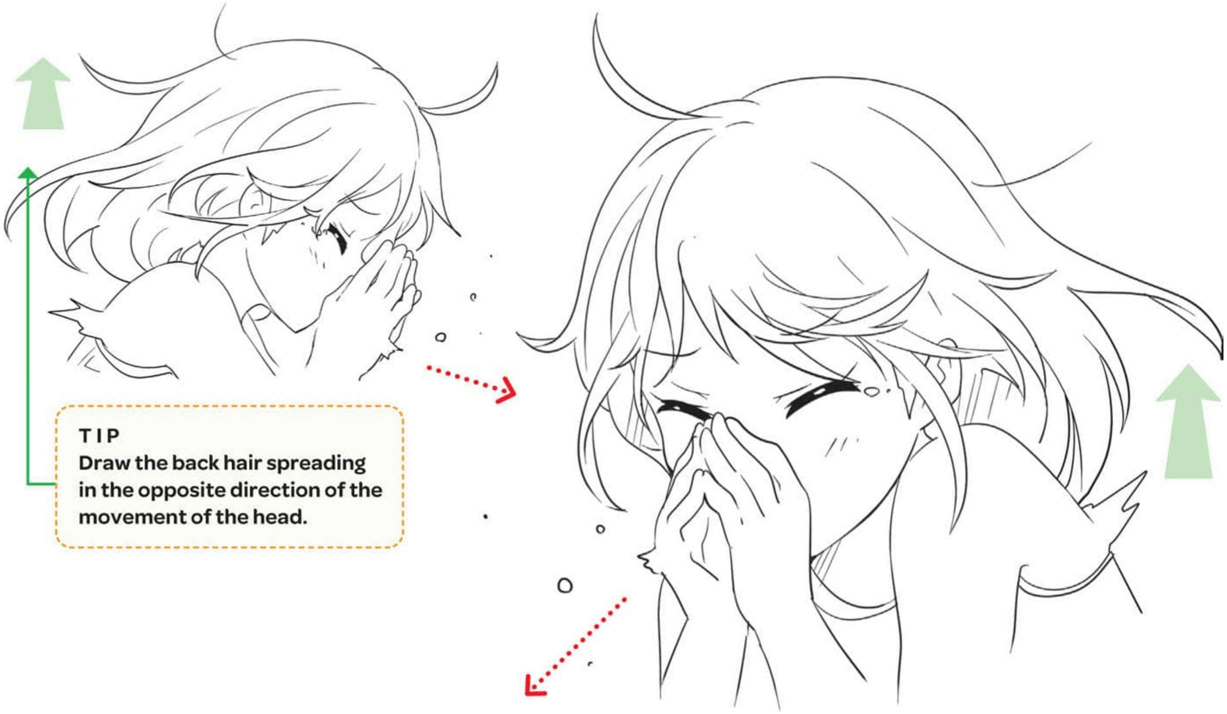
Sneezing

When you sneeze and the face moves forward, the hair will float up for a moment. Draw the ends of the hair bouncy to show the movement easily.



TIP
The tips of the hair float up and the gaps between the sections of hair increases.

When sneezing, hair travels forward along with the forward movement of the head. The bangs are floating due to the strong movement.

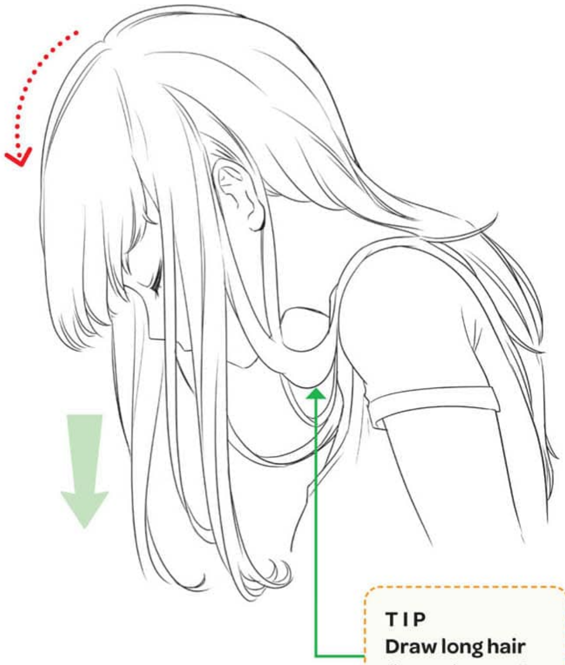


TIP
Draw the back hair spreading in the opposite direction of the movement of the head.

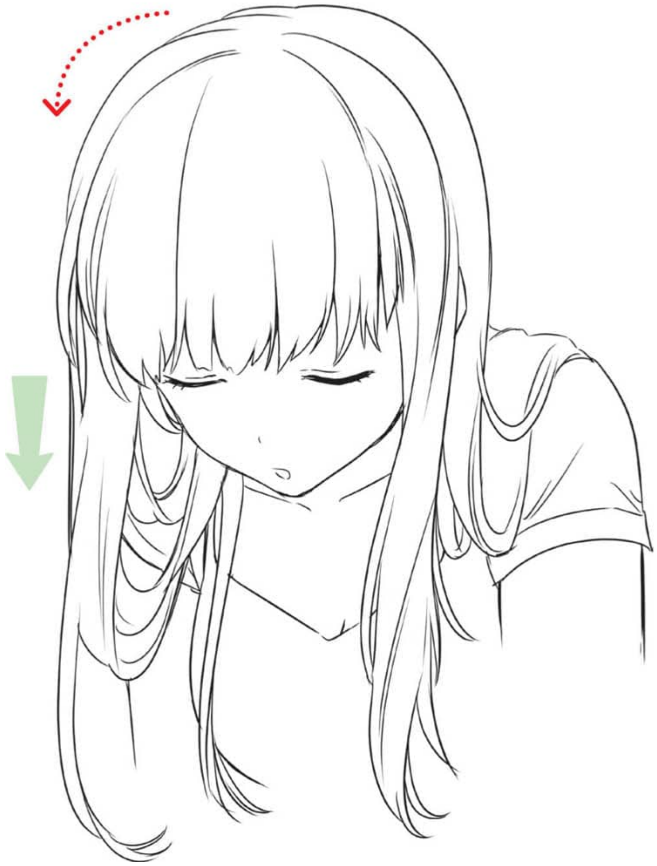
For medium-length hair, gently spreading the back hair suggests it is lifted by the force of a sneeze. It is also effective to draw the bangs and loose hair bouncing.

Looking Down

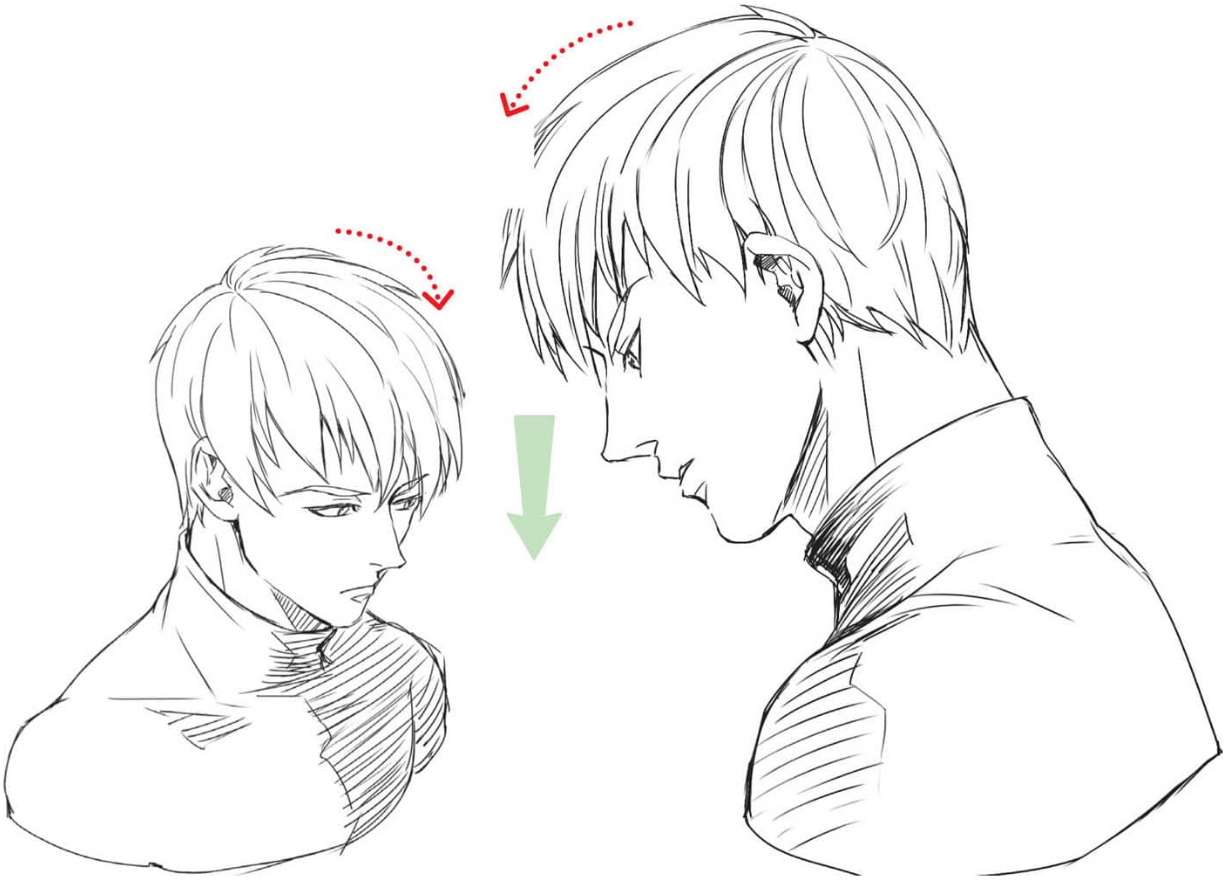
When the head hangs forward to look down, the hair falls forward with it. Depending on the mood of the scene, the character’s whole body may curve with the head.



TIP
Draw long hair draped over the shoulder for a realistic effect.



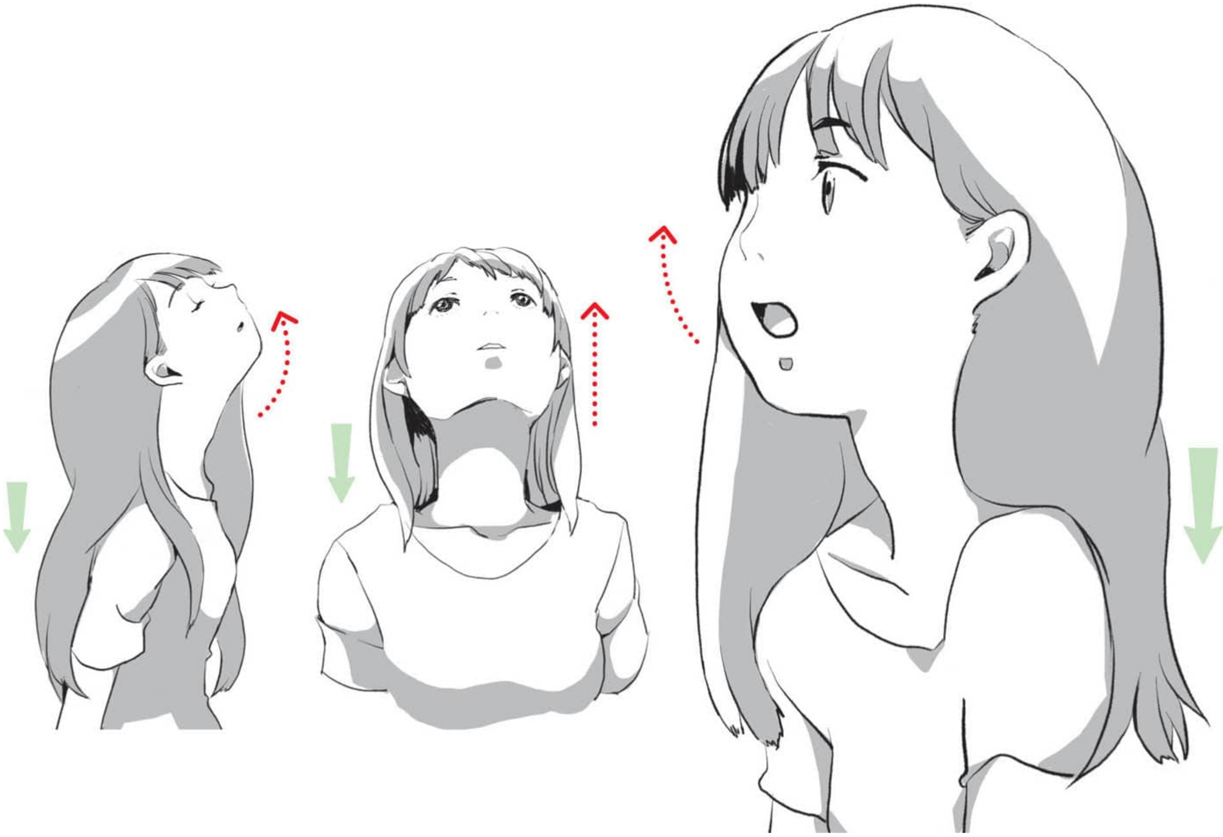
By tilting the neck, the hair flows downward and the bangs hang off the face.



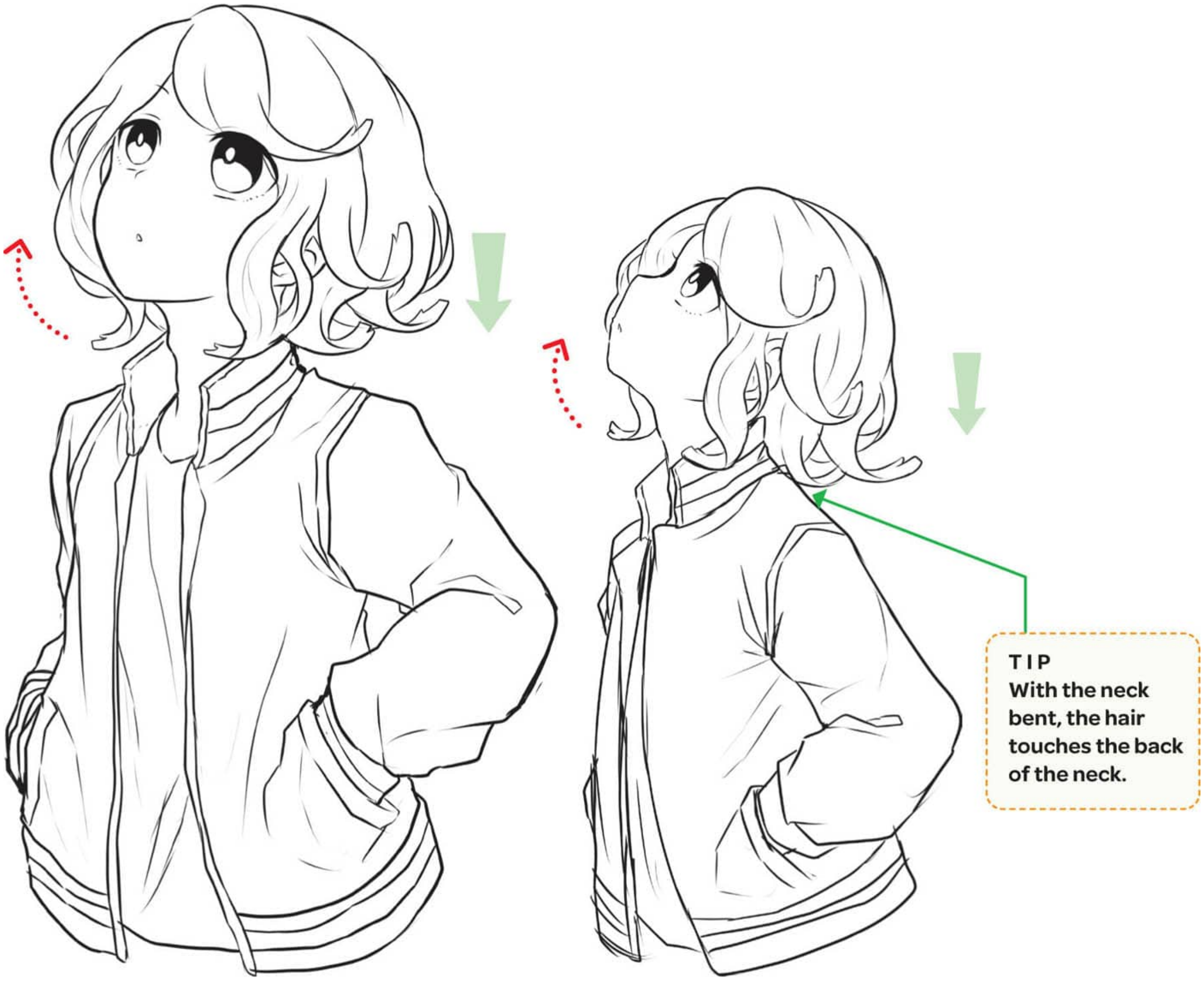
For straight hair, the changes in the hair are subtle. The bangs will hang down and the volume will increase, and the contour line from the crown to the bangs will be streamlined.

Looking Up

When you look up with the chin raised, the volume of the hair shifts to the back of the head. If a character has bangs, they will hang down and touch the forehead or hang to the side.



By looking up, the hair hangs down in the back and the volume of the back of the hair increases.

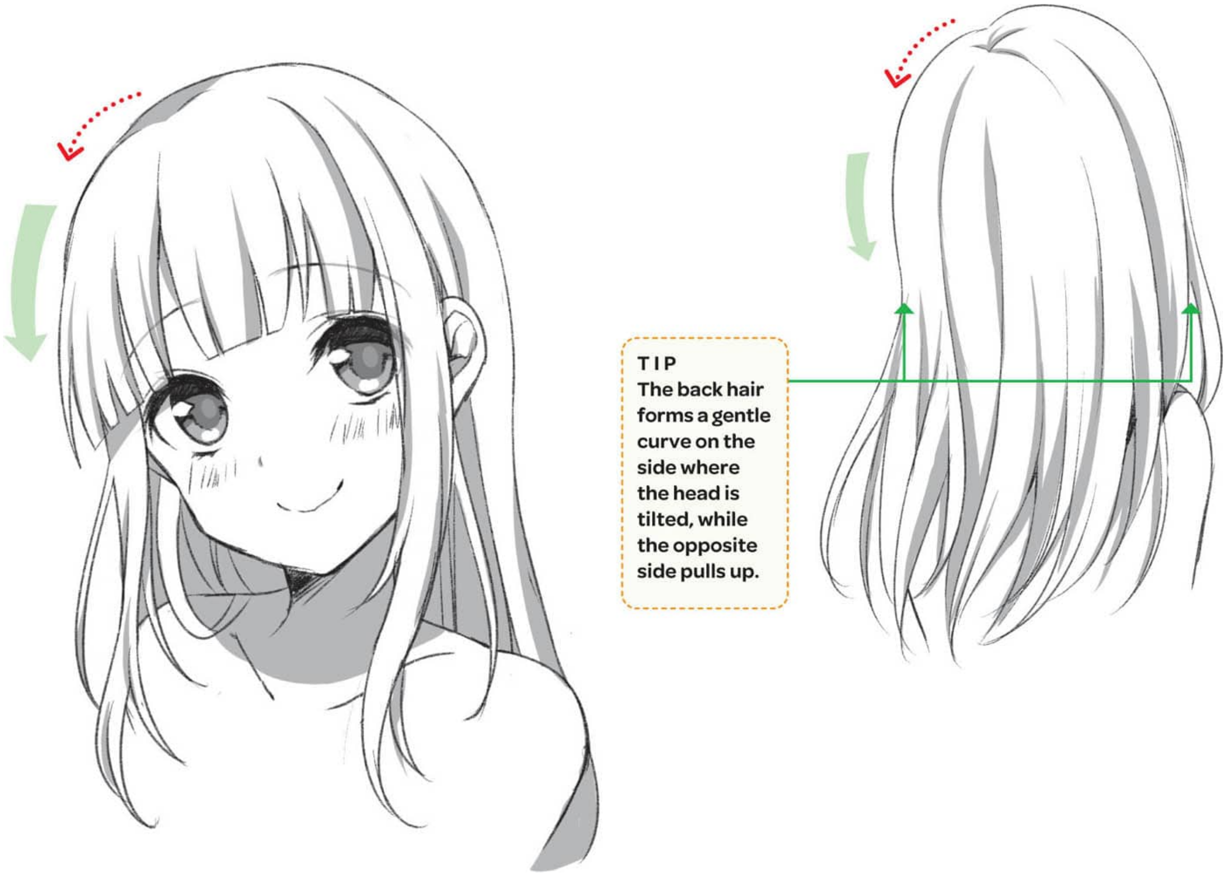


TIP
With the neck bent, the hair touches the back of the neck.

When looking up, the effect is the same for short hair as longer styles. The volume of the back of the hair increases and spreads laterally.

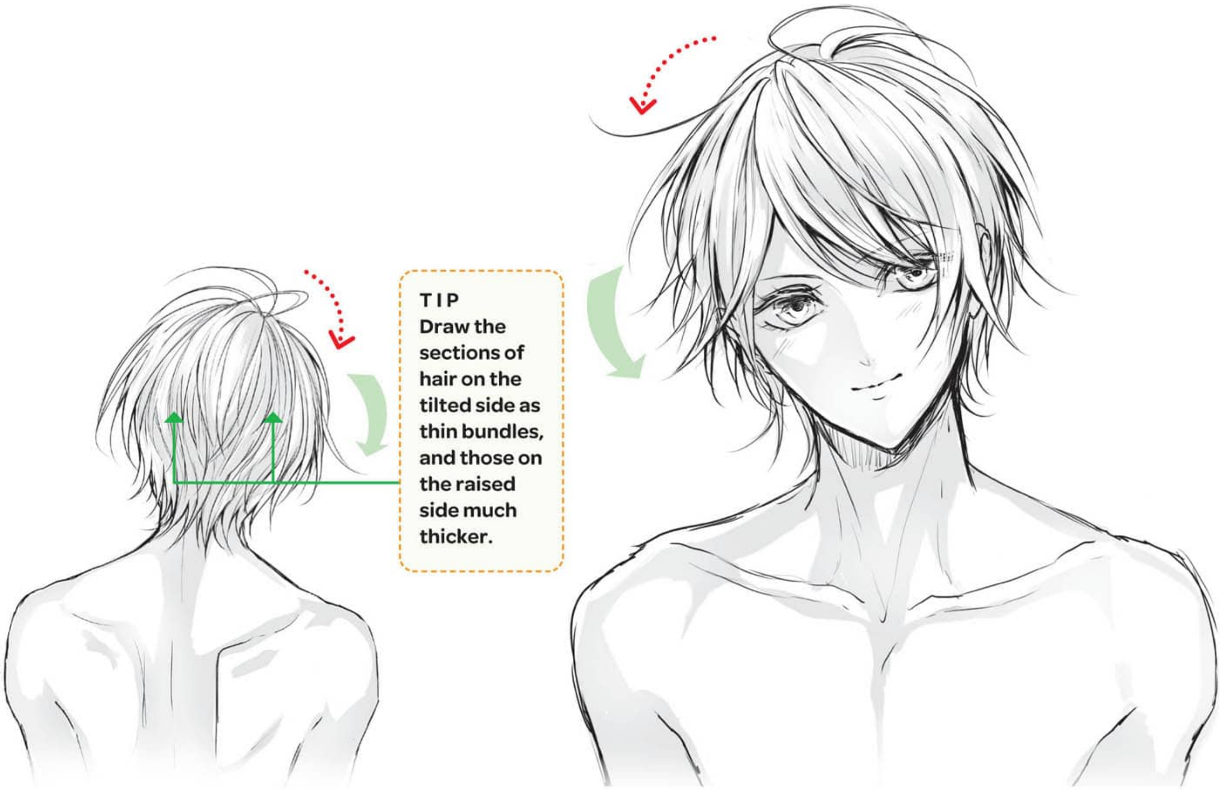
Tilting the Head

When you tilt your head to one side, the hair on the tilted side hangs down, and the bangs tilt diagonally in the same direction. The tilt is shown best with small sections of hair separating from the main sections.



TIP
The back hair forms a gentle curve on the side where the head is tilted, while the opposite side pulls up.

Draw the hair hanging lower on the tilted side of the head. The bangs will fall away from the face on the tilted side as well.

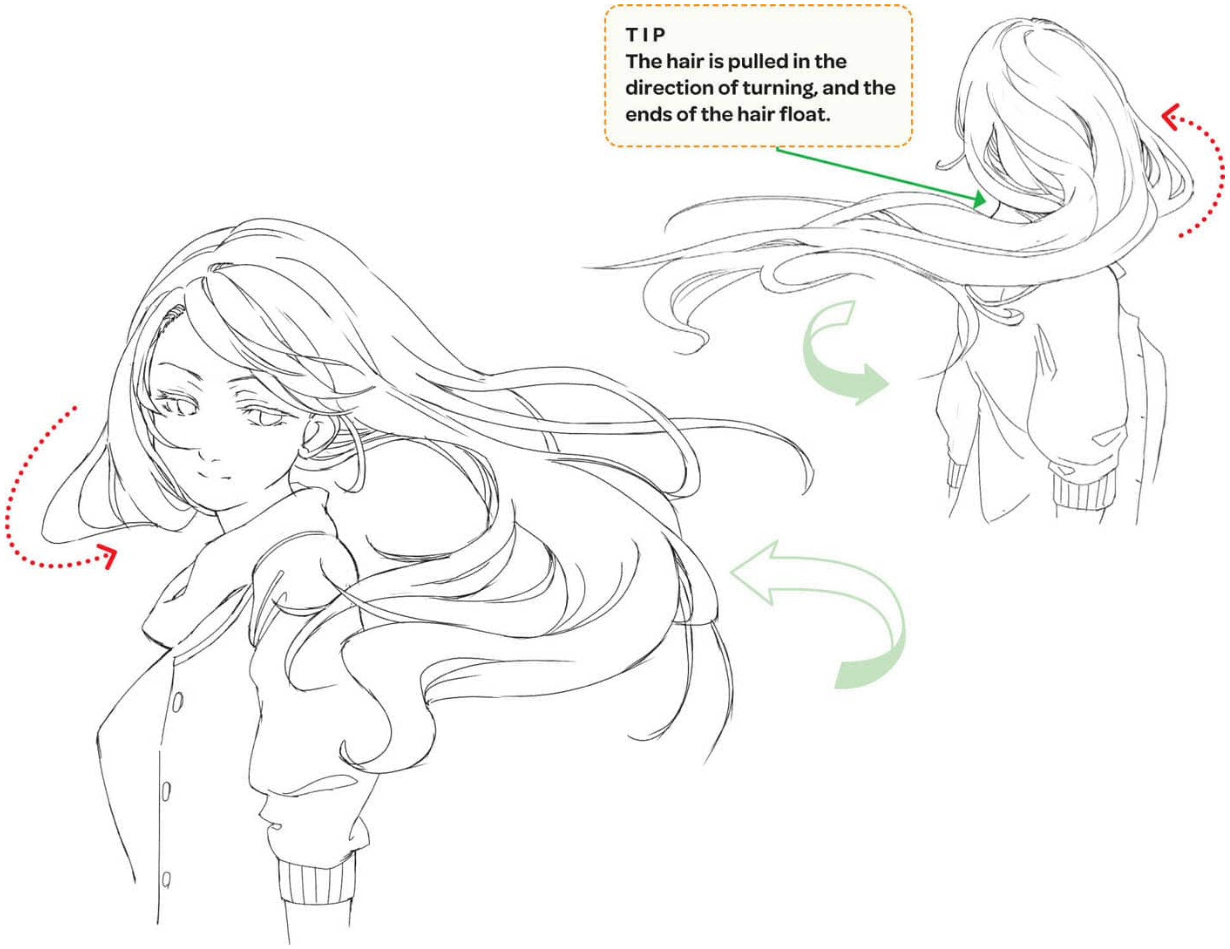


TIP
Draw the sections of hair on the tilted side as thin bundles, and those on the raised side much thicker.

For short hair, the side hair flows toward the lowered side.

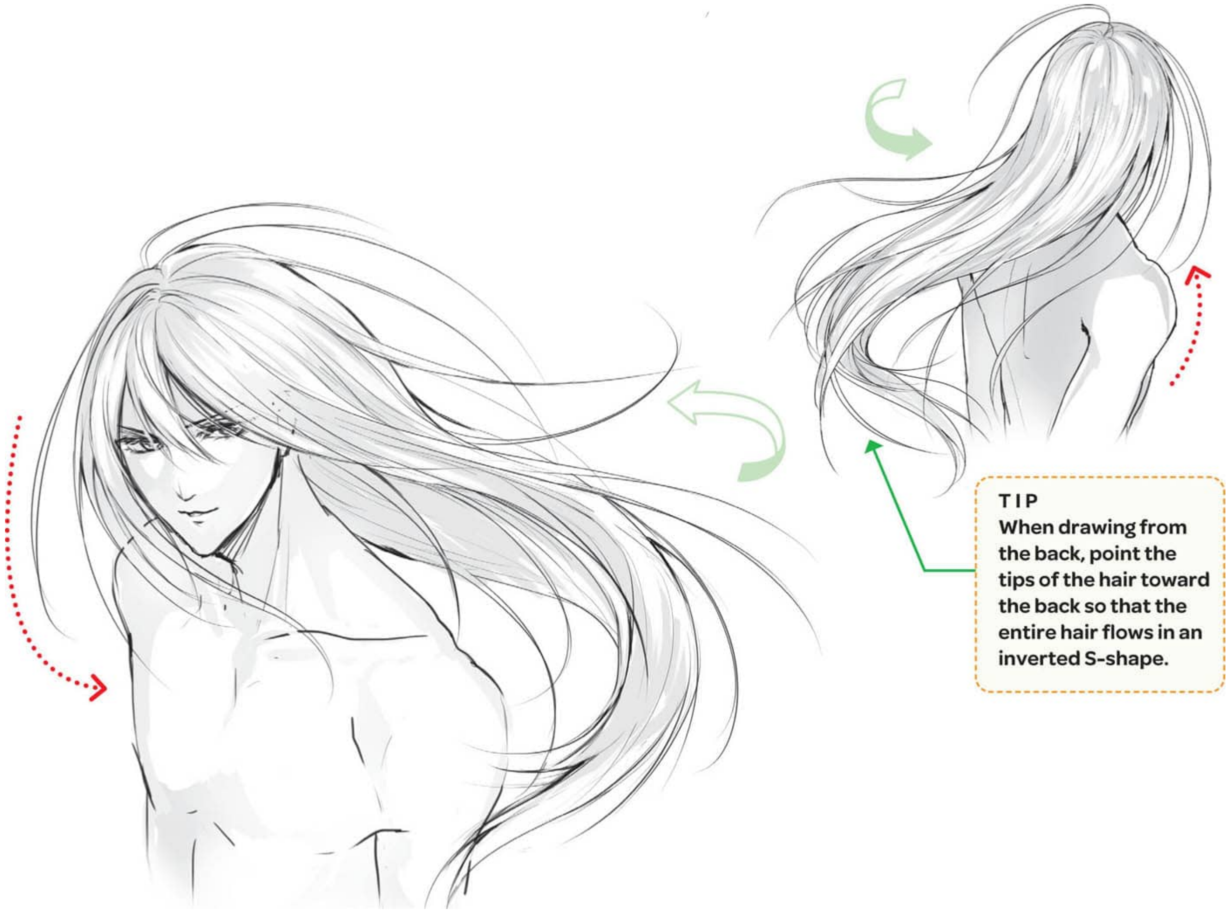
Turning Around

The motion of turning around is a full body movement. The head, shoulders, and torso all twist. As a result, the hair moves as well. This is seen with the most dramatic effect on characters with long hair.



TIP
The hair is pulled in the direction of turning, and the ends of the hair float.

The force from turning causes the hair to spread outward and surround the body. The bangs flow around the face.

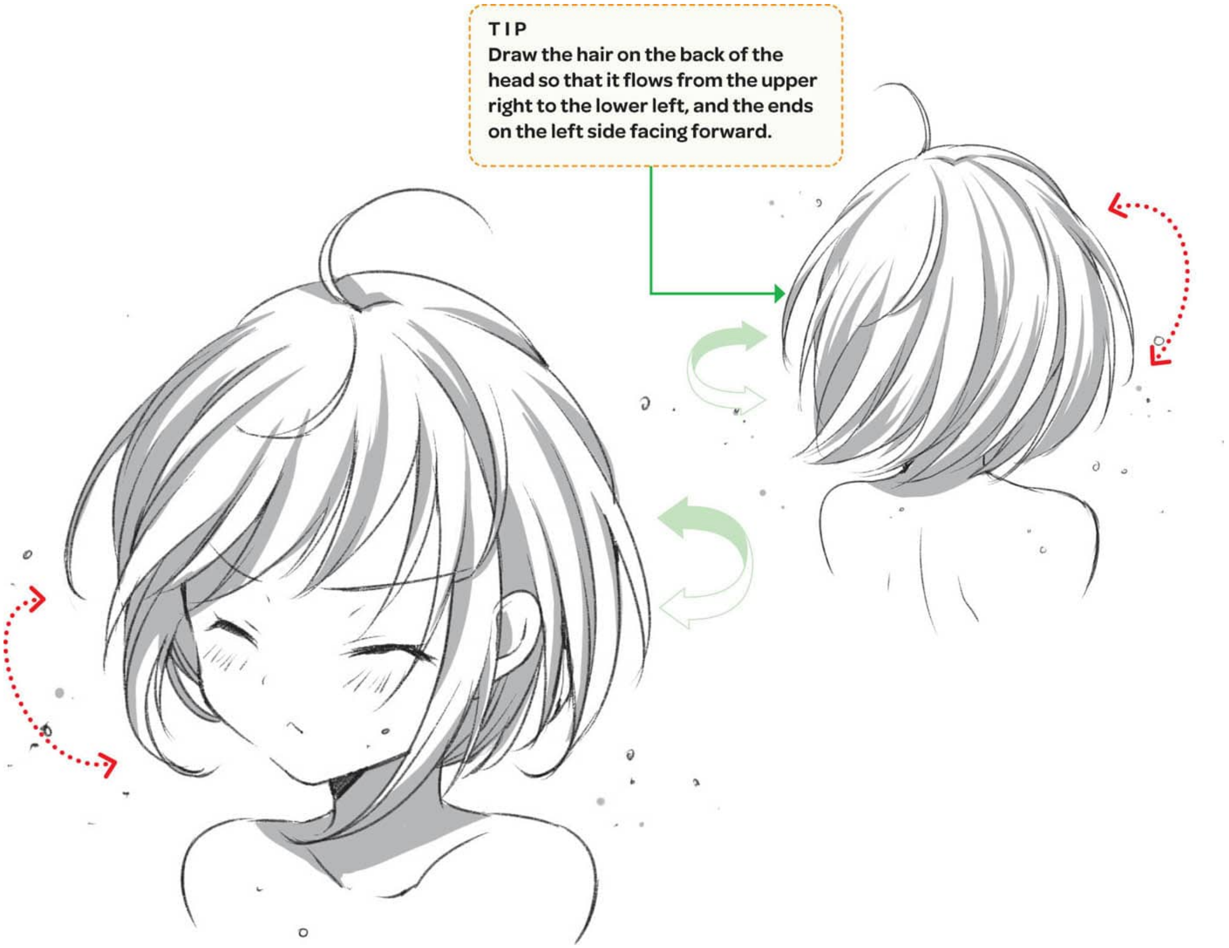


TIP
When drawing from the back, point the tips of the hair toward the back so that the entire hair flows in an inverted S-shape.

If you want to make your character's hair look silky, make the sections of hair finer and draw a streamlined flow that connects the top of the hair and the ends.

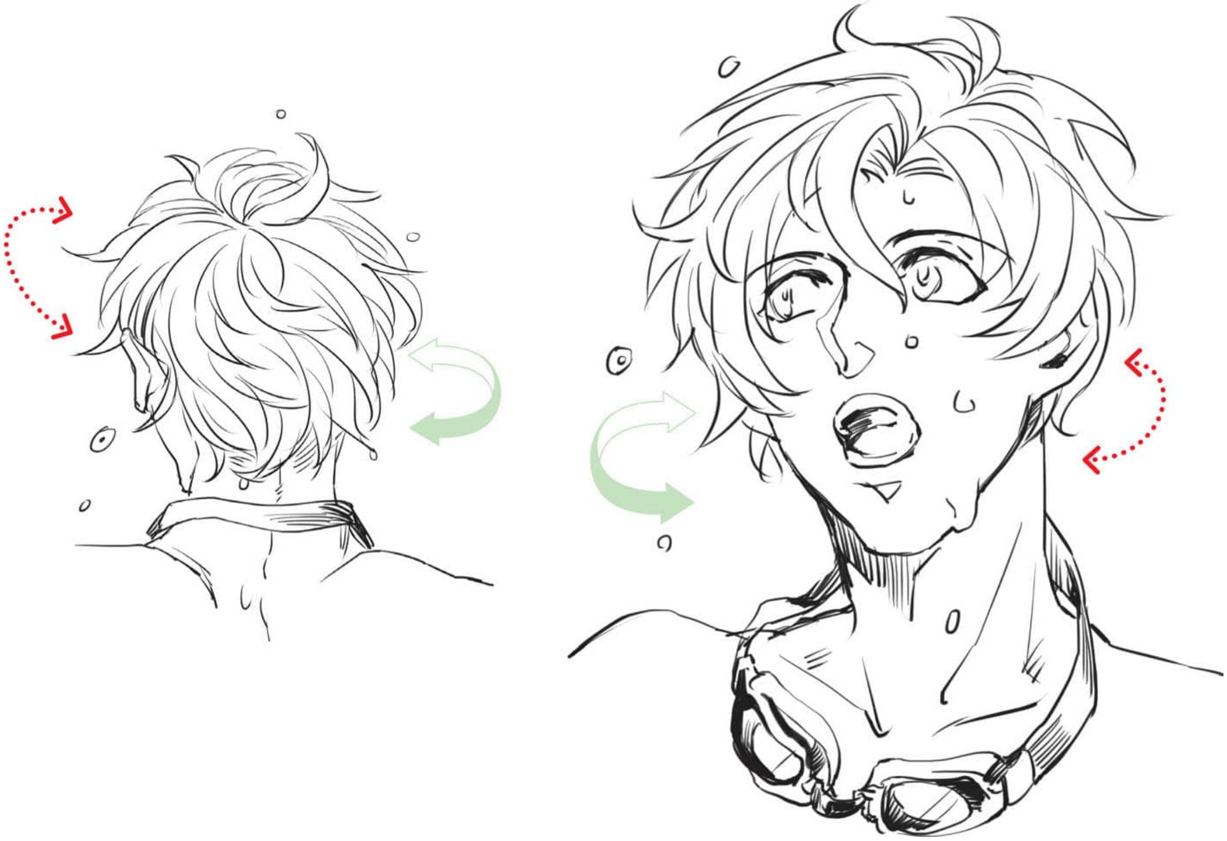
Shaking the Head

This movement involves turning the head side to side vigorously, such as when shaking water from wet hair or strongly disagreeing. The motion results in a mixed flow of hair that you'll need to capture in your drawing.



TIP
Draw the hair on the back of the head so that it flows from the upper right to the lower left, and the ends on the left side facing forward.

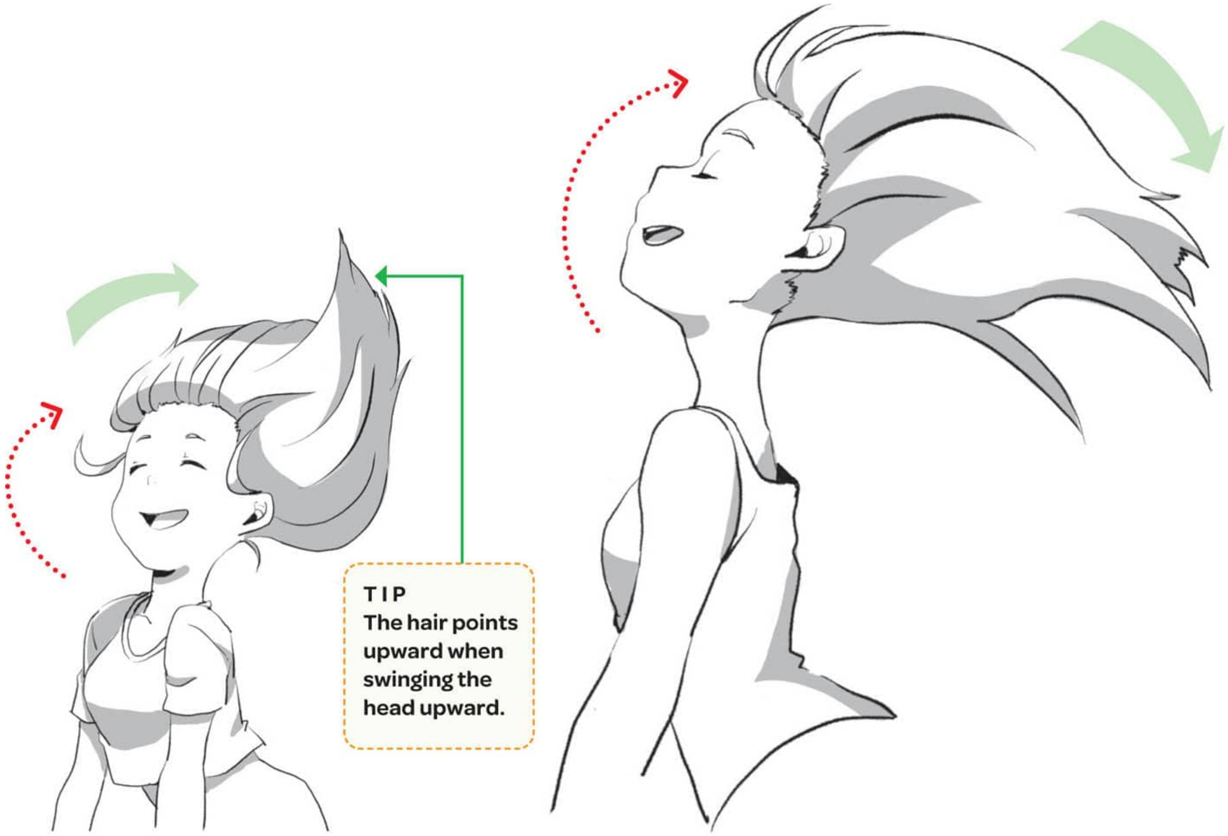
The face is turned to the right, and the hair is moving as if the head is shaken to the left. Overall, the hair is drawn as if lifted off the head with more volume.



For this character, the ends of the bangs are turned inward and water causes the hair to stick to the cheeks. The movement of the hair on the back of the head is fighting the cowlick.

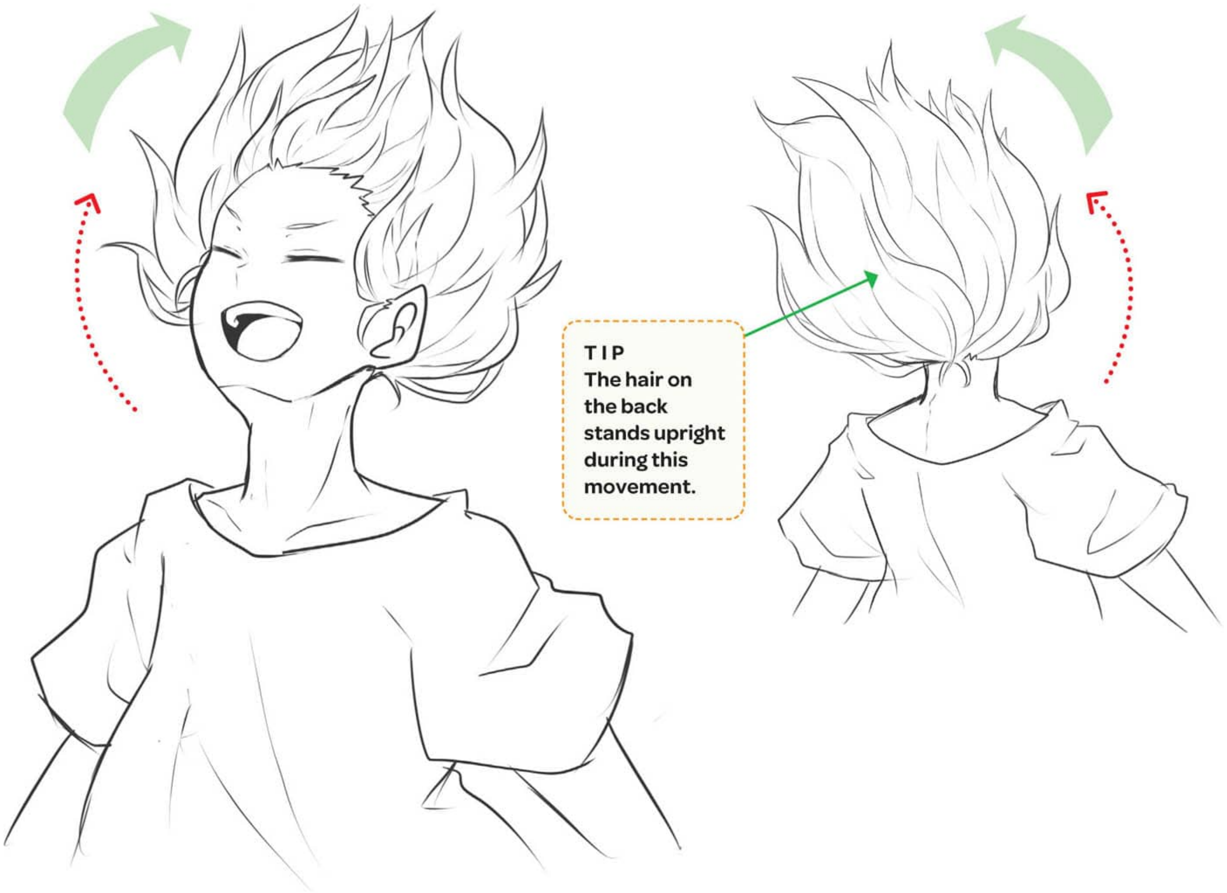
Swinging the Head Upward

When swinging the head upward, the position of the body and face is similar to that of a character looking up. However, the position of the hair implies a completely different movement.



TIP
The hair points upward when swinging the head upward.

For this movement, the hair on the back of the head is raised up together with the lifted bangs. Hair is flowing from the bangs to the back in an arc.

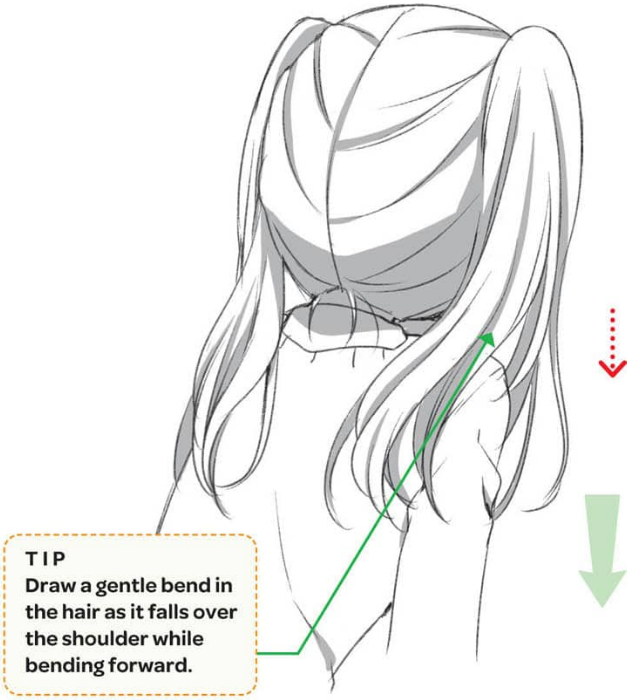


TIP
The hair on the back stands upright during this movement.

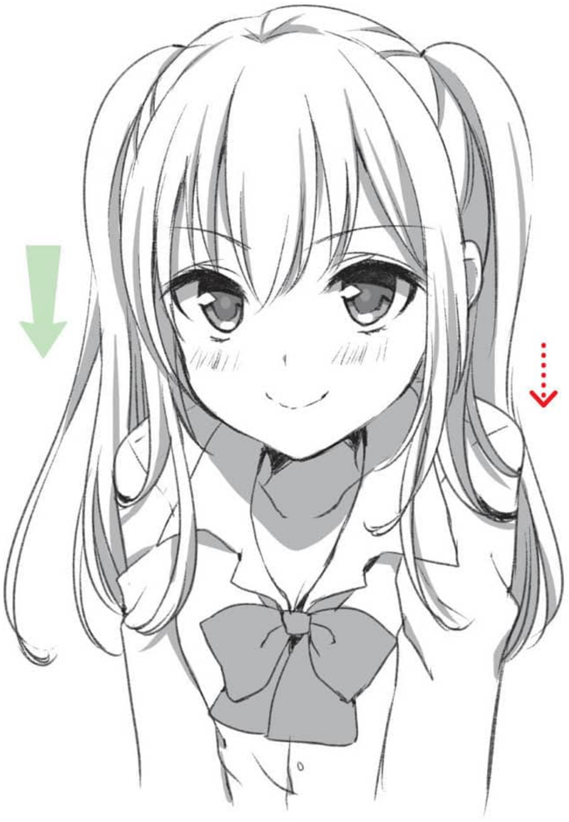
To further understand how this movement impacts hair flow, imagine all the hair drawn forward with the body bent forward. Then, the body rises quickly and the head swings up, and the hair flips back. This drawing catches the hair flipping at the height of its movement through the air.

Stooping

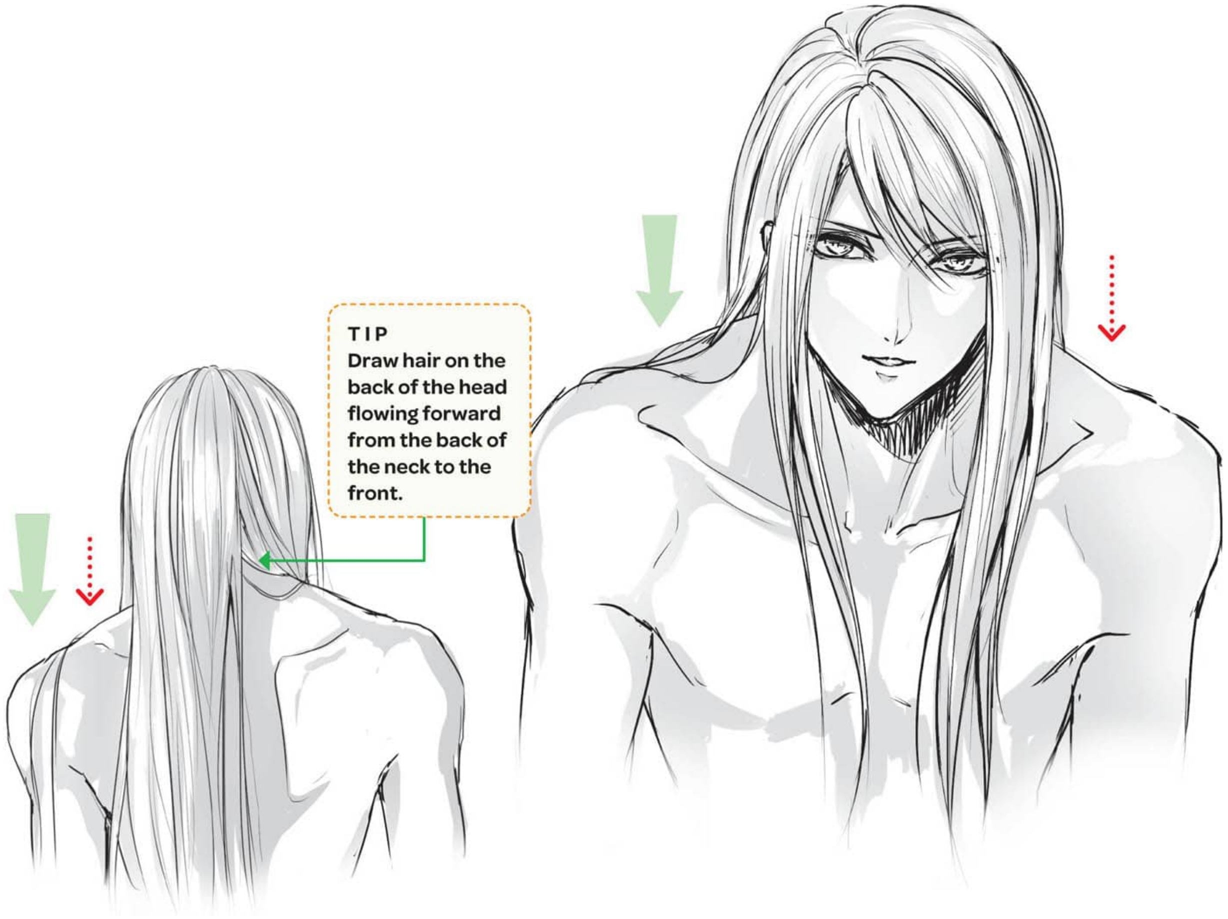
When a character bends down and gazes up from the lowered body position, the hair is impacted. The hair appears to hang more loosely and pools around the shoulders.



TIP
Draw a gentle bend in the hair as it falls over the shoulder while bending forward.



Due to leaning forward, the bangs hang away from the forehead. Add shadows to show the added dimension.

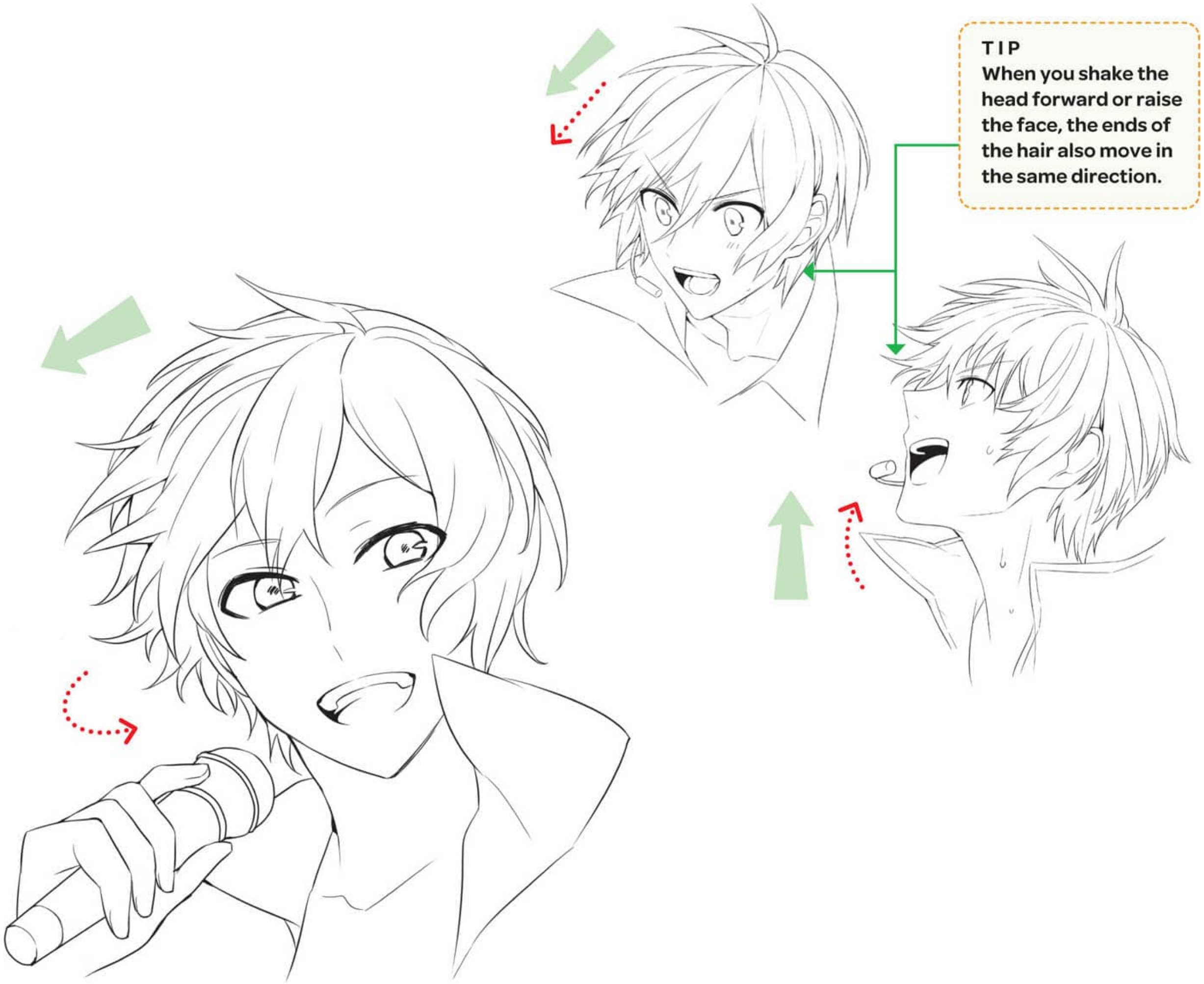


TIP
Draw hair on the back of the head flowing forward from the back of the neck to the front.

The long side sections of this hairstyle gather at the center of the body when the head leans forward.

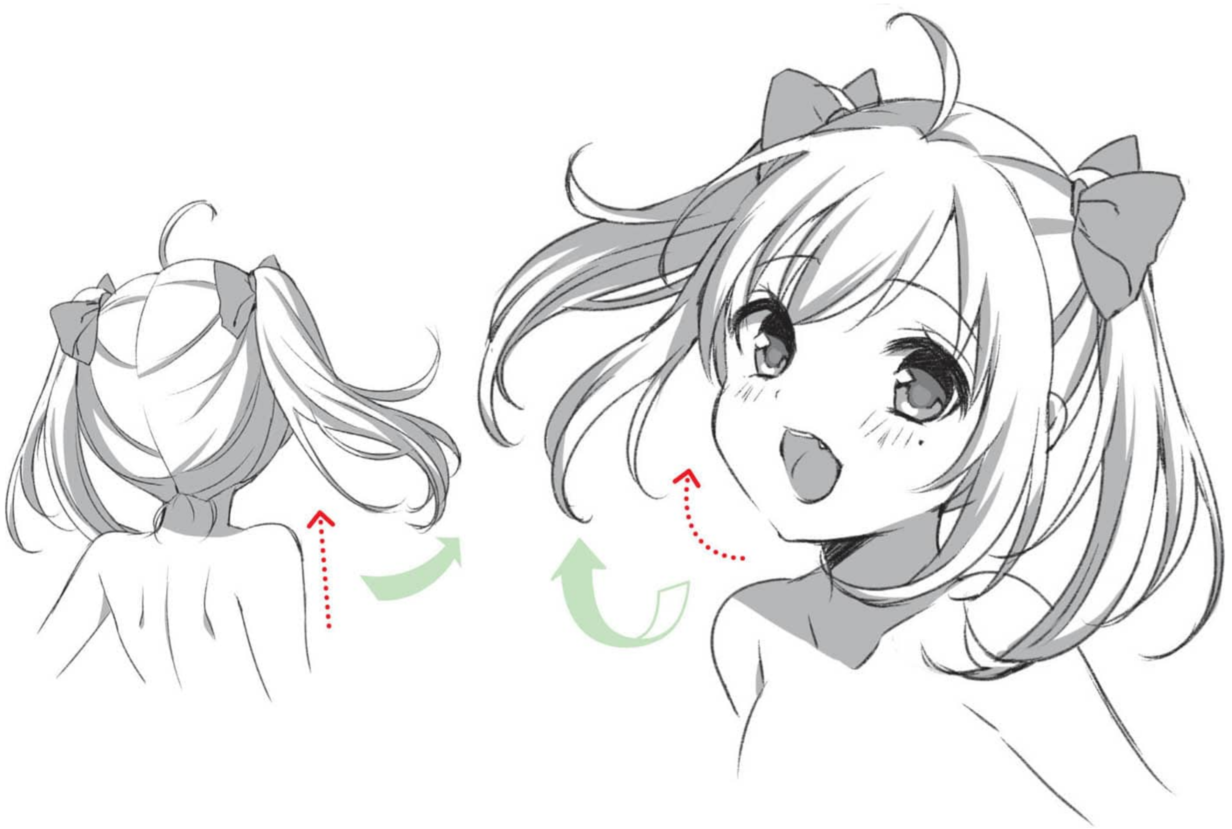
Singing

For singing or dancing, don’t forget to express movement through the character's hair. This can be achieved by adding bounce to the tips and changing the flow.



TIP
When you shake the head forward or raise the face, the ends of the hair also move in the same direction.

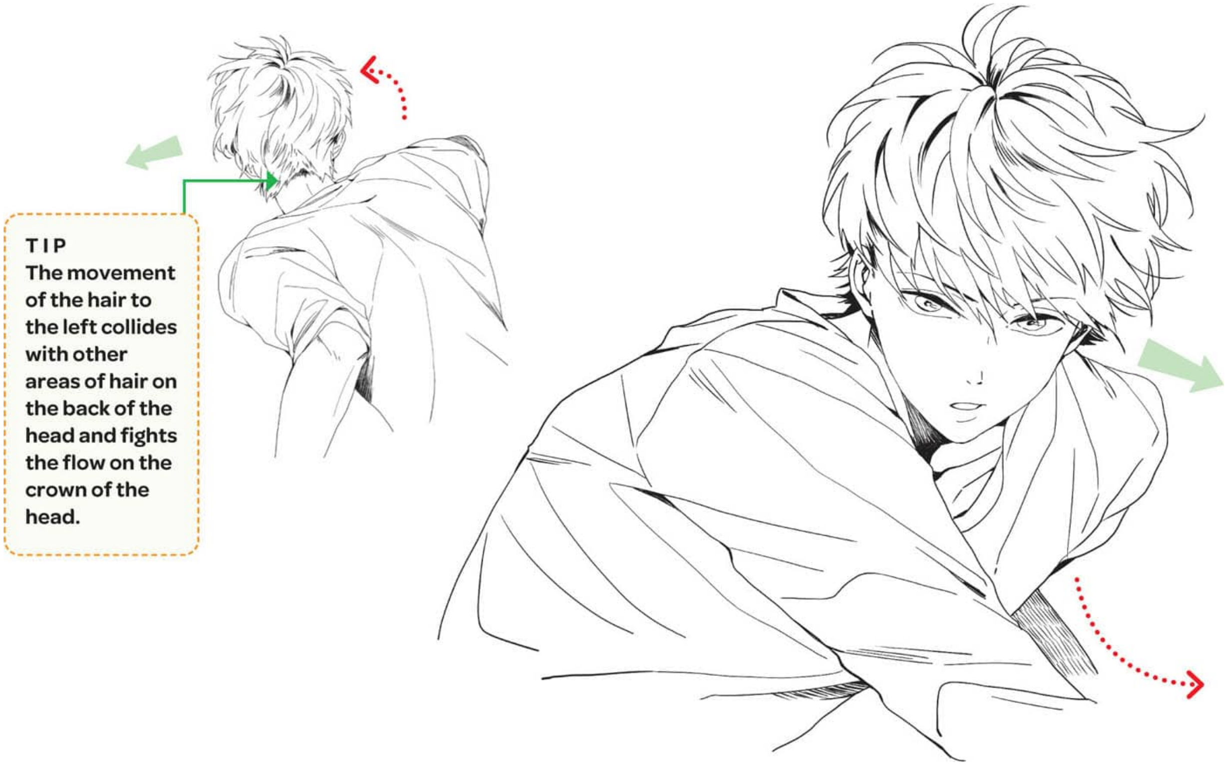
This character moves his head while singing. This can be seen in the hair that appears to fall flat on the left side, while the right side bounces with movement.



The twin ponytails and bangs spread sideways and swing away from the face while this character sings with enthusiasm.

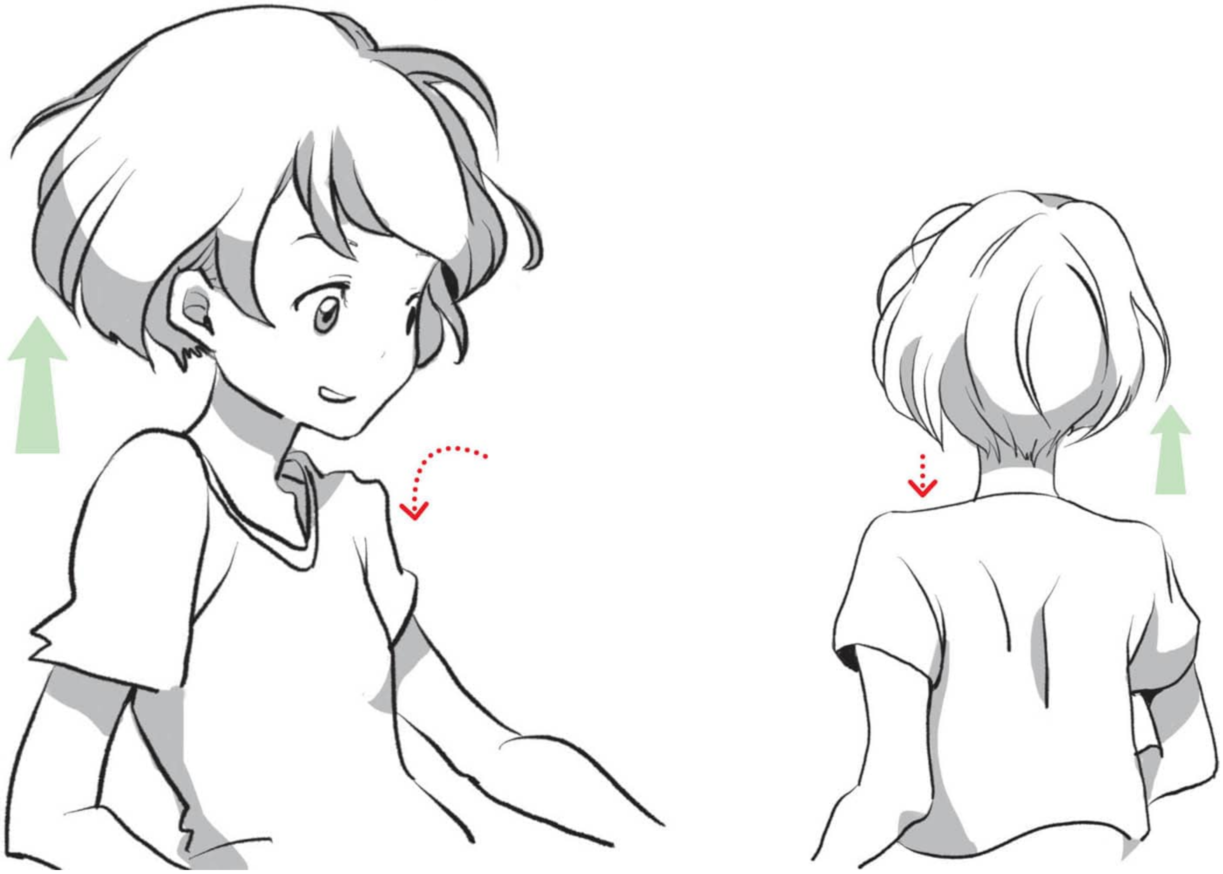
Playing Sports

The body moves dynamically when playing sports. Actions like throwing or kicking a ball travel through the body, so you can see big movements in the hair as well.



TIP
The movement of the hair to the left collides with other areas of hair on the back of the head and fights the flow on the crown of the head.

The throwing motion is similar to other twisting motions, which adds a twist to the hair, causing it to flow to one side.



When kicking a ball, the upper body moves backward. As the body floats back due to the leg being swung forward, the hair also spreads as if it floats, too.

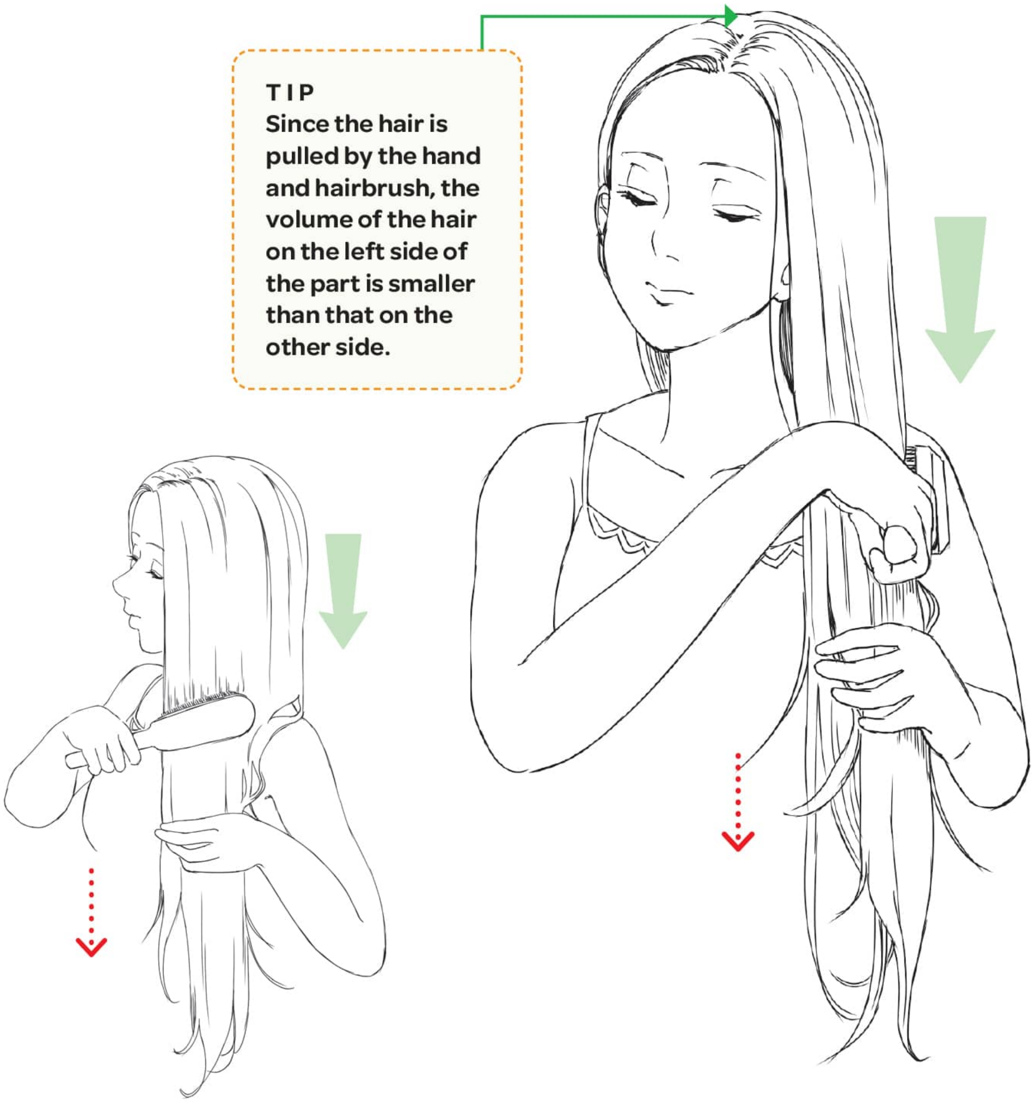
When Characters Style Their Hair

There are a wide range of ways to change hair through styling. Whether combing, brushing, curling, or blowing dry, tools impact how hair moves. In this section, explore ways characters can style their hair with different tools.

⇠ **Body Movement** ⬅ **Hair Movement**

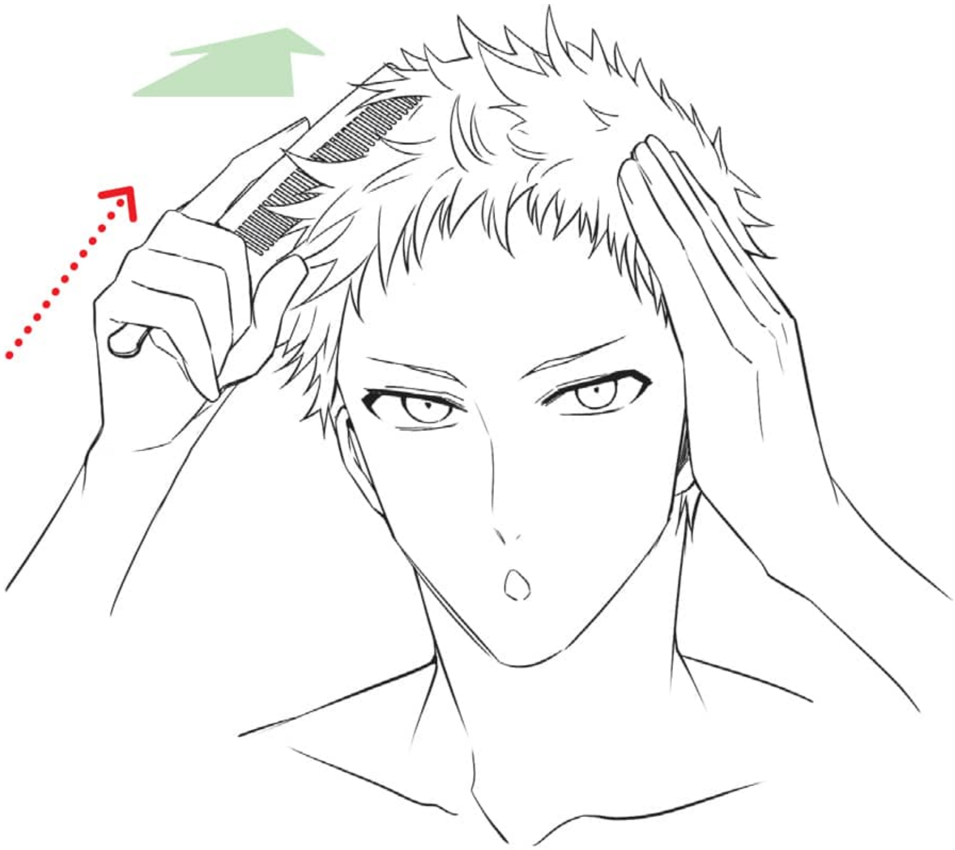
Combing and Brushing

Combing the hair causes the hair to move toward the comb. Hand movements, such as holding sections of hair, are also added to express the action taking place.



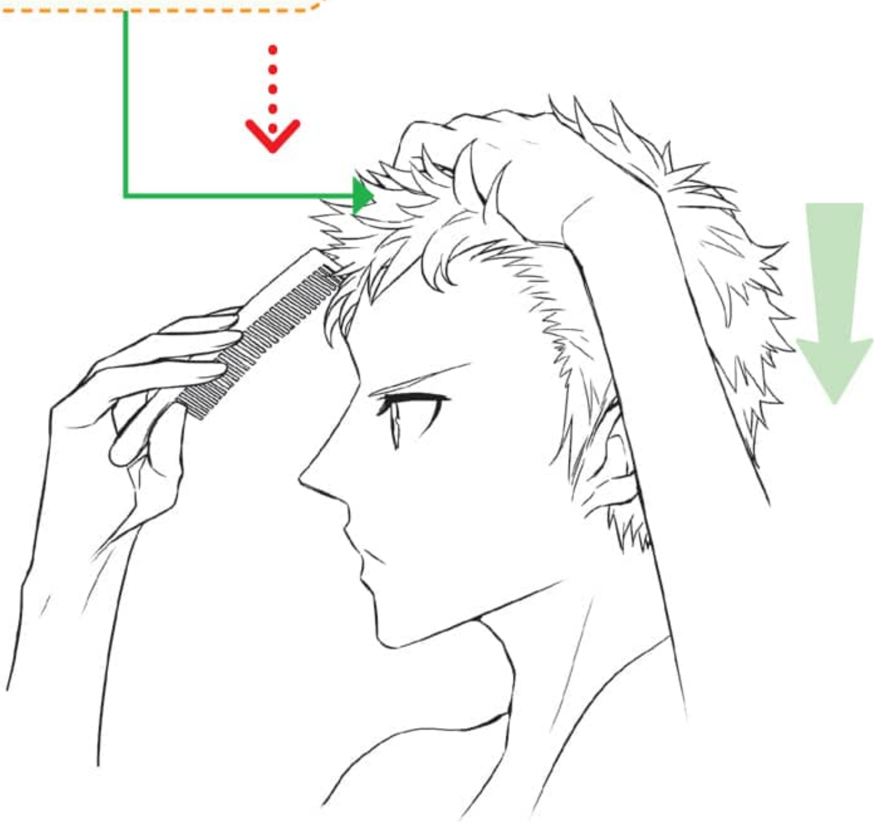
TIP
Since the hair is pulled by the hand and hairbrush, the volume of the hair on the left side of the part is smaller than that on the other side.

Add fine lines just above the hairbrush to convey the force of the brush pressing into the hair.



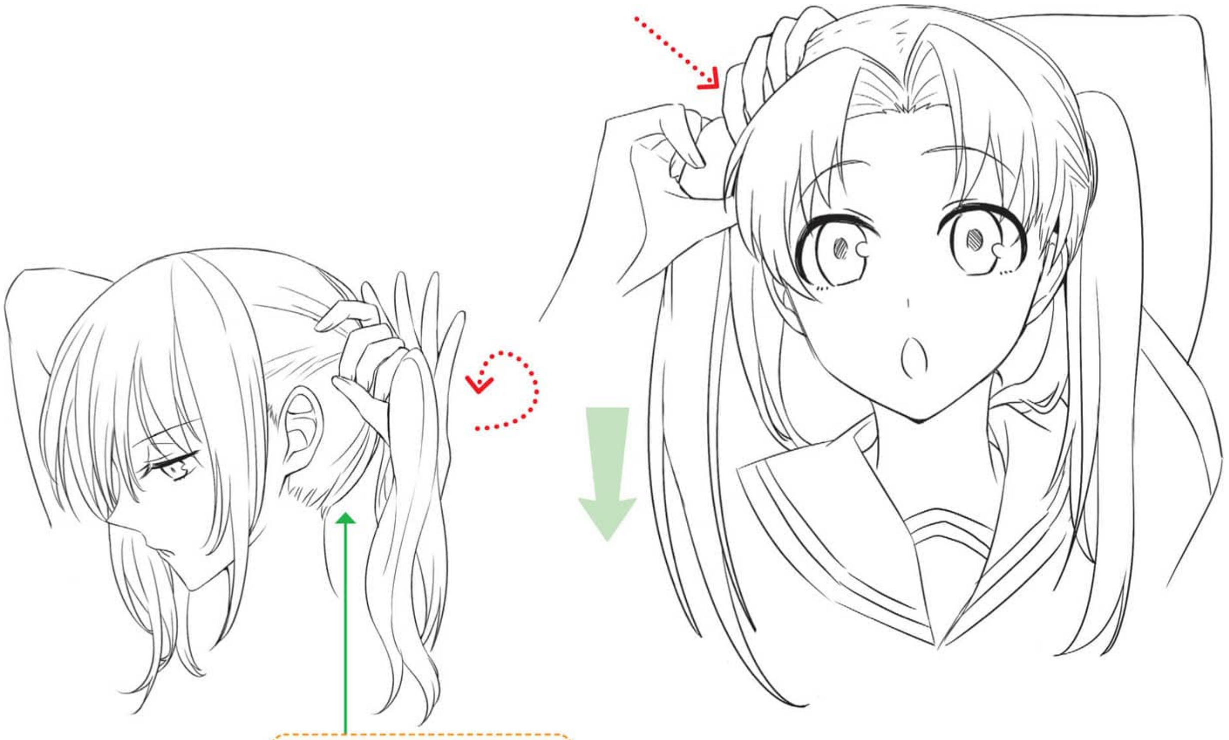
With short hair, the areas that have just been combed will bounce up immediately, while the areas touching the comb will lie flat.

TIP
Volume is shown by drawing the ends of the hair sticking out on the front side of the left hand.



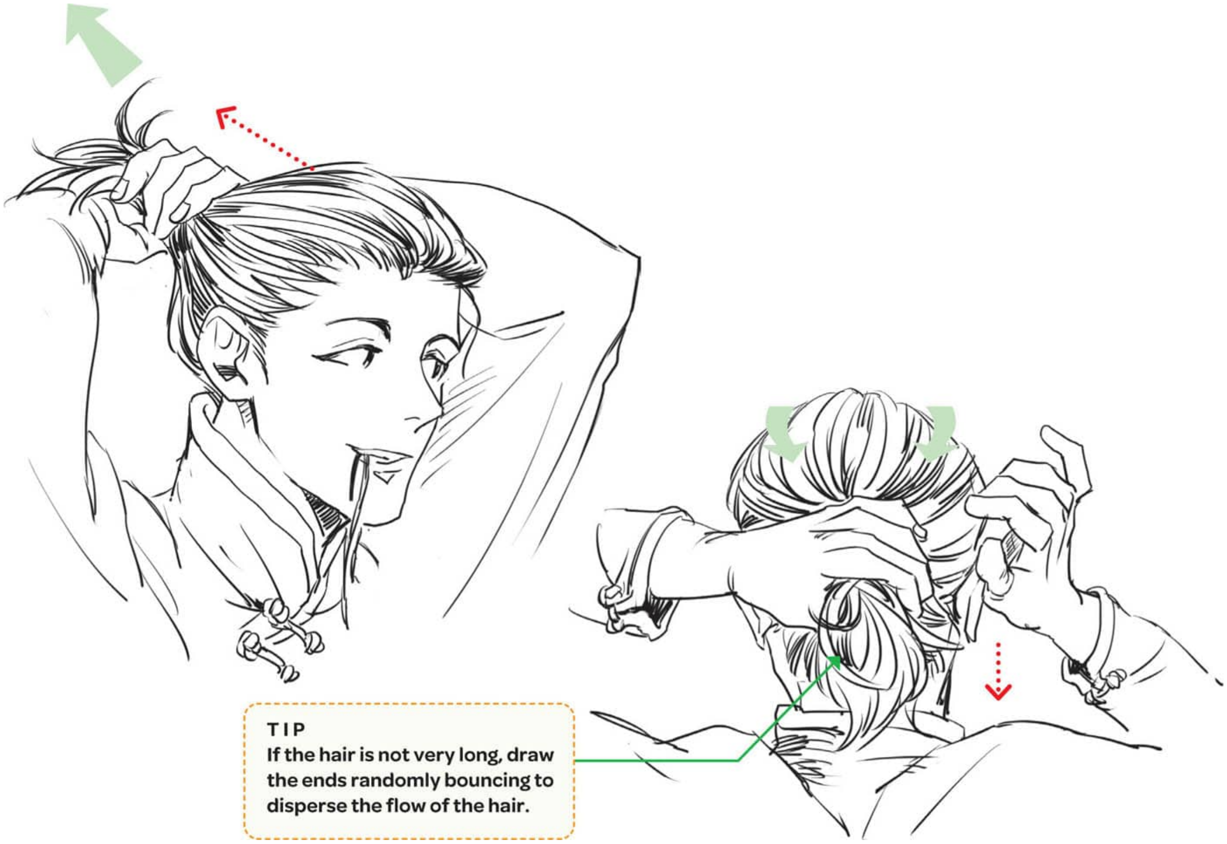
Pulling Hair Up

When tying hair up into a ponytail or bun, the gathered hair flows to the area of the tie. For long hair, the section of hair being tied will fall limp; the ends of shorter hair will bounce in various directions.



TIP
Draw the hair flowing to the point where the hair is gathered into the hair tie.

When gathering a twin ponytail, the opposite arm and shoulder are raised, which tilts the head and causes the new ponytail to temporarily hang lower than the first.

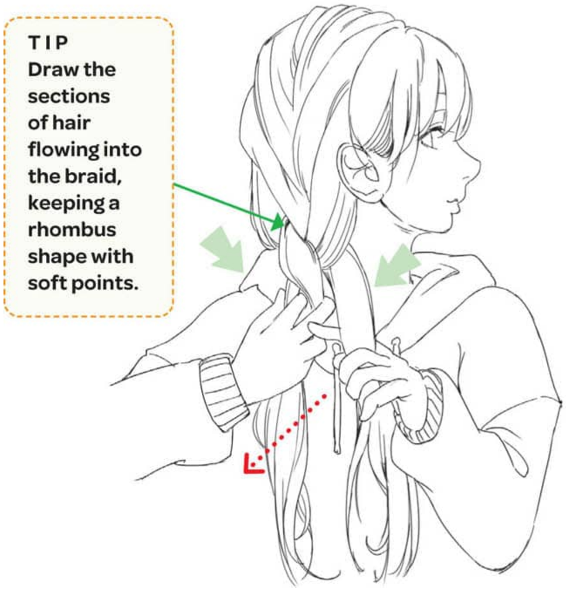


TIP
If the hair is not very long, draw the ends randomly bouncing to disperse the flow of the hair.

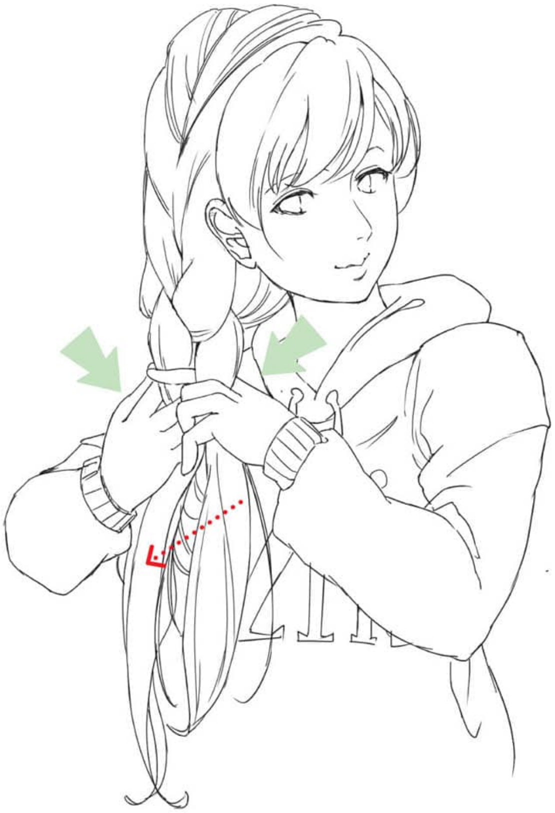
Suggest that the hair is tied loosely by adding volume to the hair as it is pulled back. The closer the hair is to the head, the tighter the hair is being tied.

Braiding and Pinning

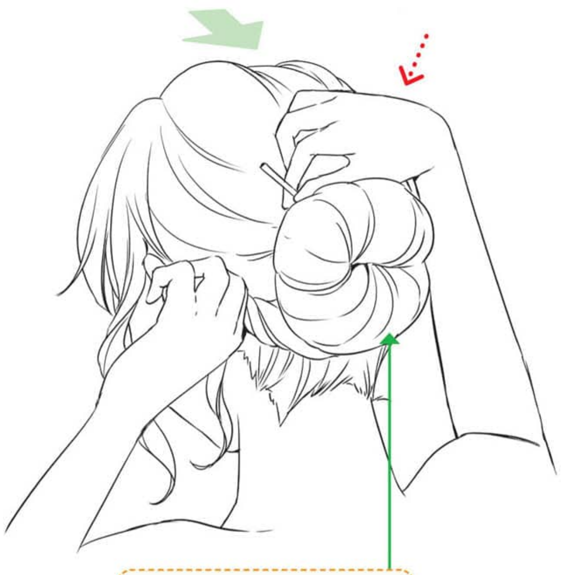
When drawing hair being braided or secured with a pin, it's important to consider the movement of the hands, as well as the texture of the hair.



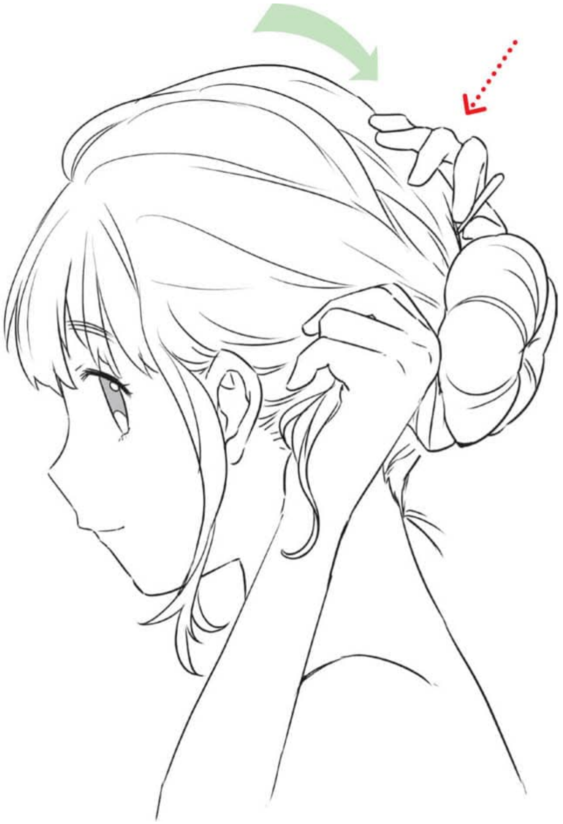
TIP
Draw the sections of hair flowing into the braid, keeping a rhombus shape with soft points.



When braiding, the section of hair just above the hand is rounded, but the part near the crown is pulled taut. The position of the hands is key to making the pose look natural—draw the right hand holding the hair bundle and the fingers of the left hand passing through the braid.



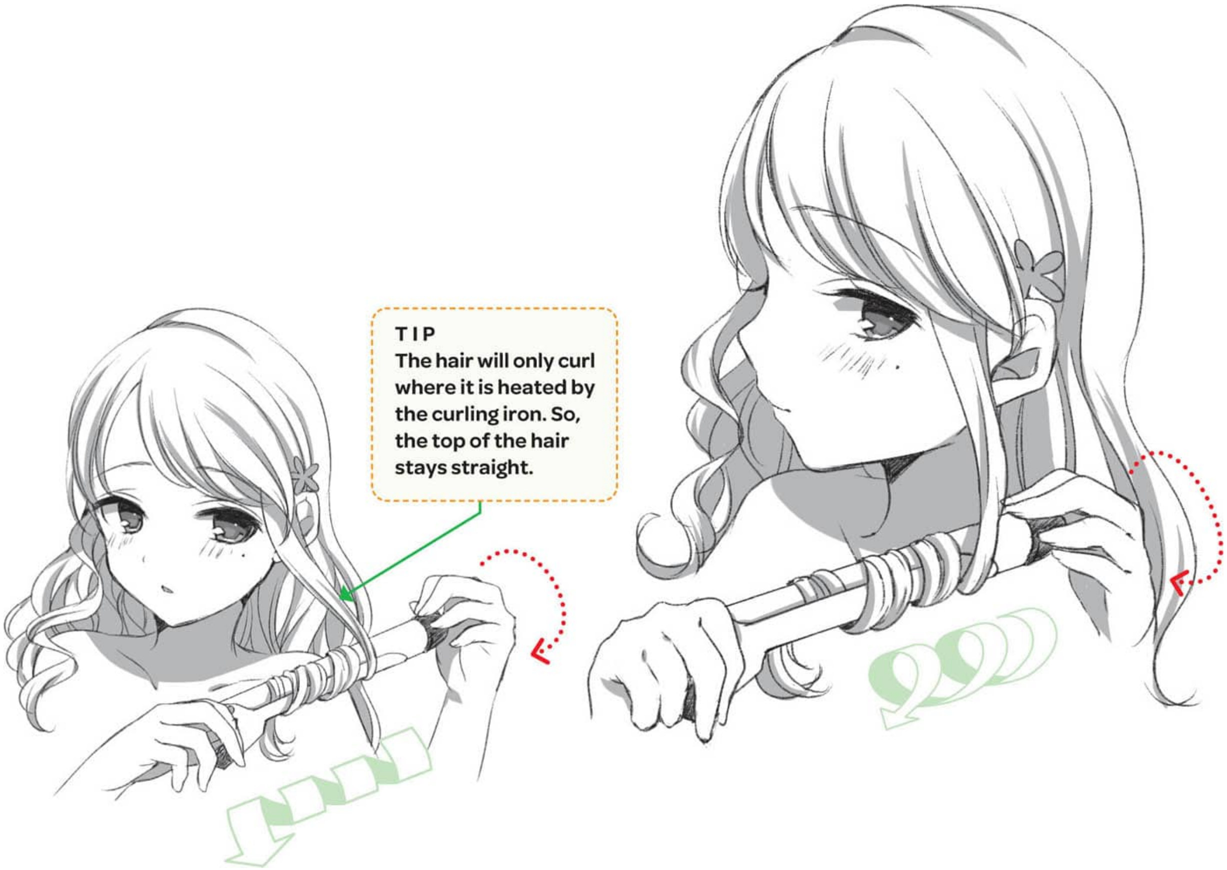
TIP
Draw the hair curving into the center of the bun for a three-dimensional effect.



Twisted hair is tied up at the back of the head to make a bun that is fastened with a hairpin. Draw the fingers holding the hairpin as if the hand is holding a sewing needle.

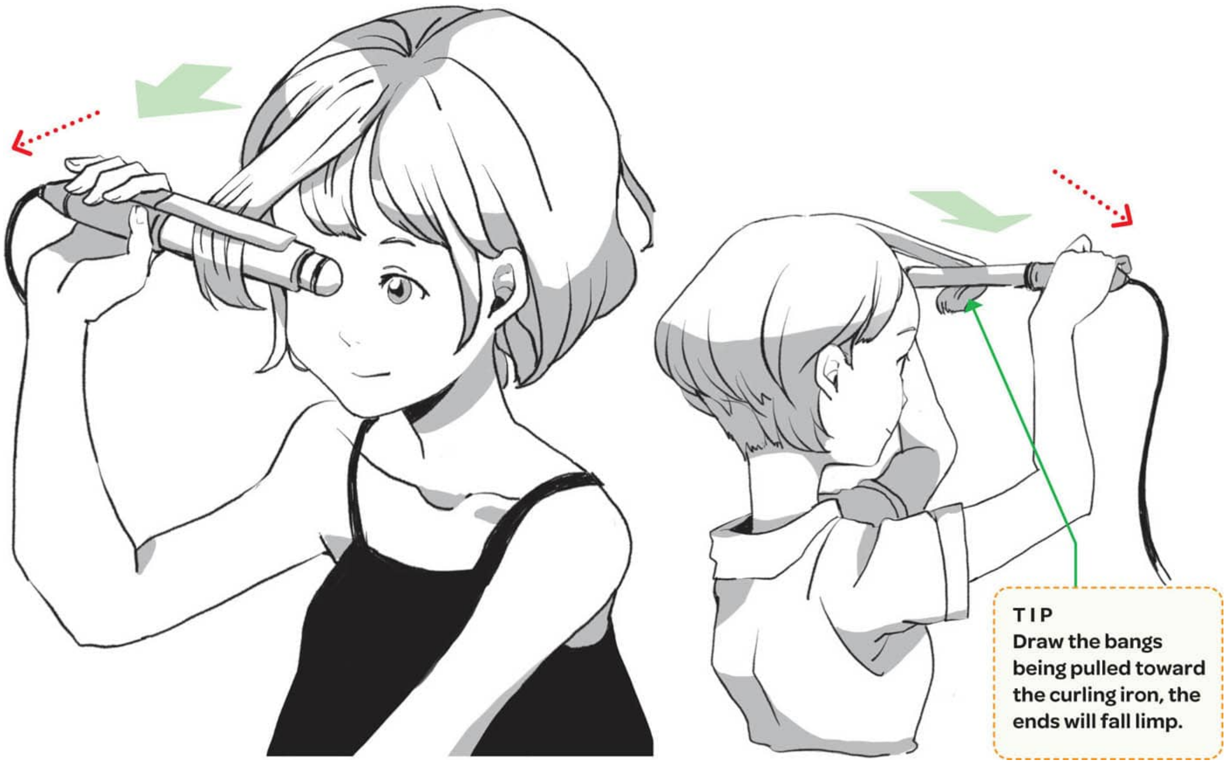
Curling

The most important aspect to keep in mind when illustrating a character curling their hair is the direction in which you wrap the hair around the curling iron. The direction of the wrap changes the direction of the curls.



TIP
The hair will only curl where it is heated by the curling iron. So, the top of the hair stays straight.

Hair is curled from the bottom up when using a curling iron. If the iron is wrapped inward, the curls will twist toward the face. If the iron is wrapped outward, the curls will twist away from the face.

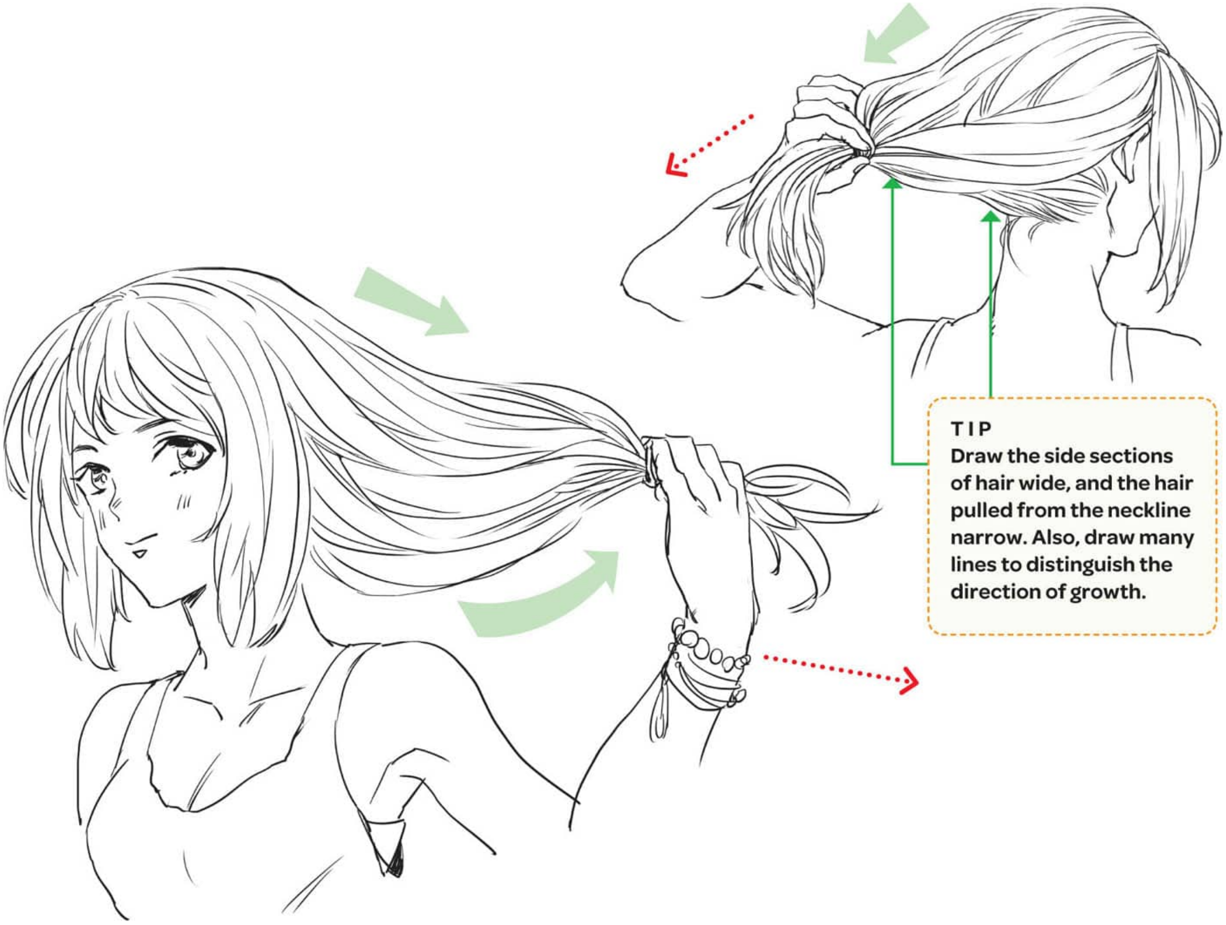


TIP
Draw the bangs being pulled toward the curling iron, the ends will fall limp.

When curling bangs, only the ends are clamped between the arms of the curling iron.

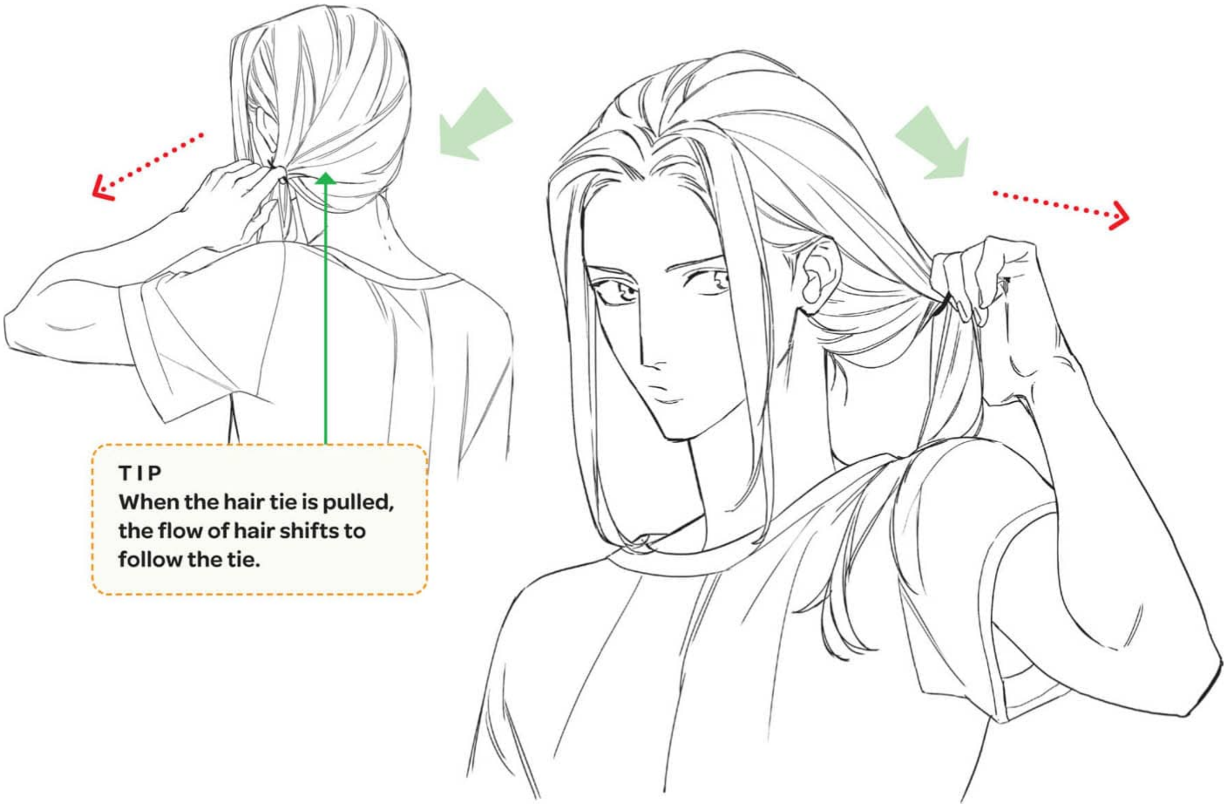
Untying the Hair

Hair displays a combination of pulling and hanging as it’s being untied. The top will pull toward the hand and hair tie, while the bottom will fall down.



TIP
Draw the side sections of hair wide, and the hair pulled from the neckline narrow. Also, draw many lines to distinguish the direction of growth.

As you loosen the tie, the underlying hair sags with gravity. The upper part of the hair is supported by the hand, so it hardly hangs down.



TIP
When the hair tie is pulled, the flow of hair shifts to follow the tie.

Draw the fingers on the tied section of hair and pull it sideways to untie the hair. Again, the side sections of hair will fall free first and hang loosely.

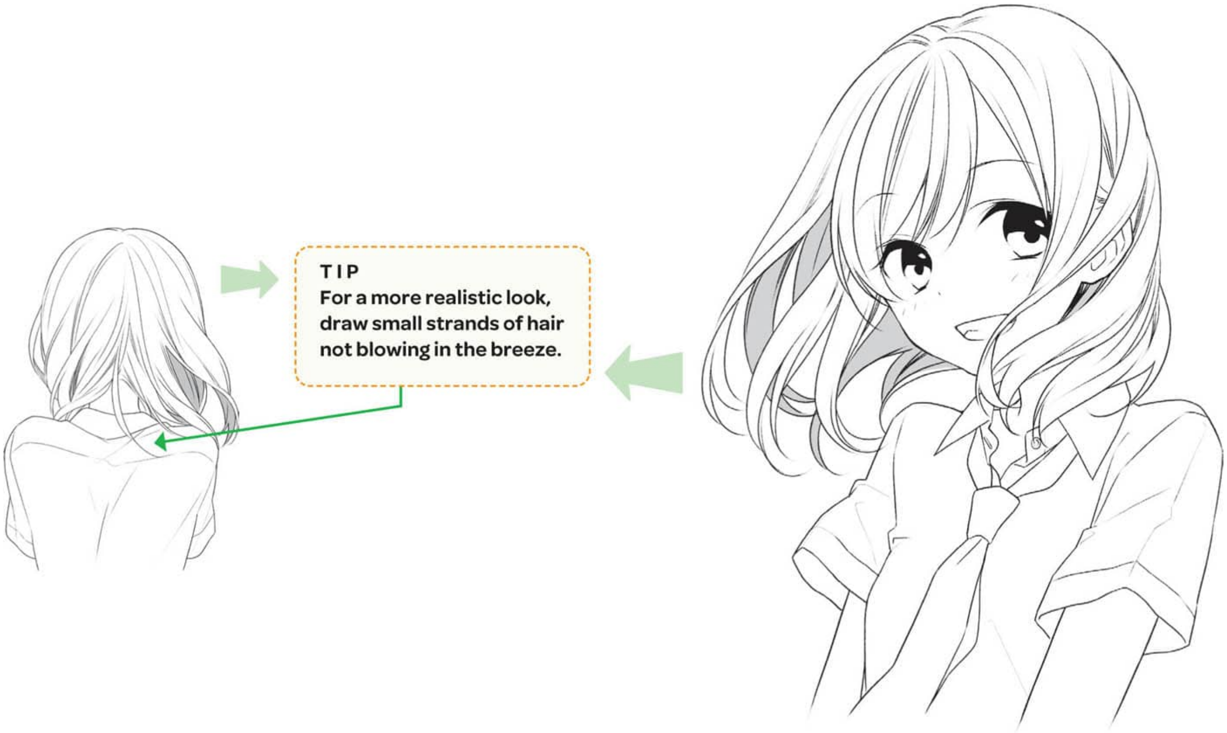
Windblown and Wet Hairstyles

Hair is easily influenced by wind and water. In this section, you'll see the effects of natural wind, artificial wind, such as hair dryers, and water-related effects, such as being underwater, on hair.

⇠ **Body Movement** ⬅ **Hair Movement**

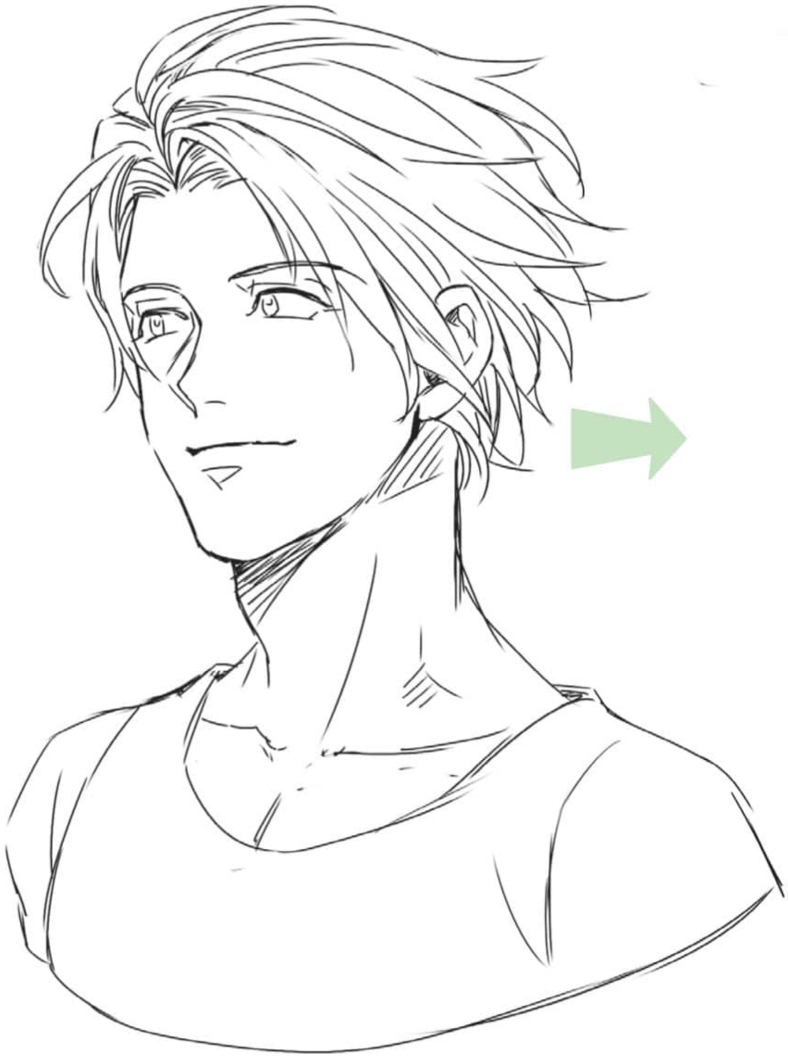
Gentle Breeze

Hair blown by the wind moves in the same direction as the wind, but the way the hair flows will change depending on the strength of the wind. In the case of a soft breeze, the ends of the hair will flow gently.

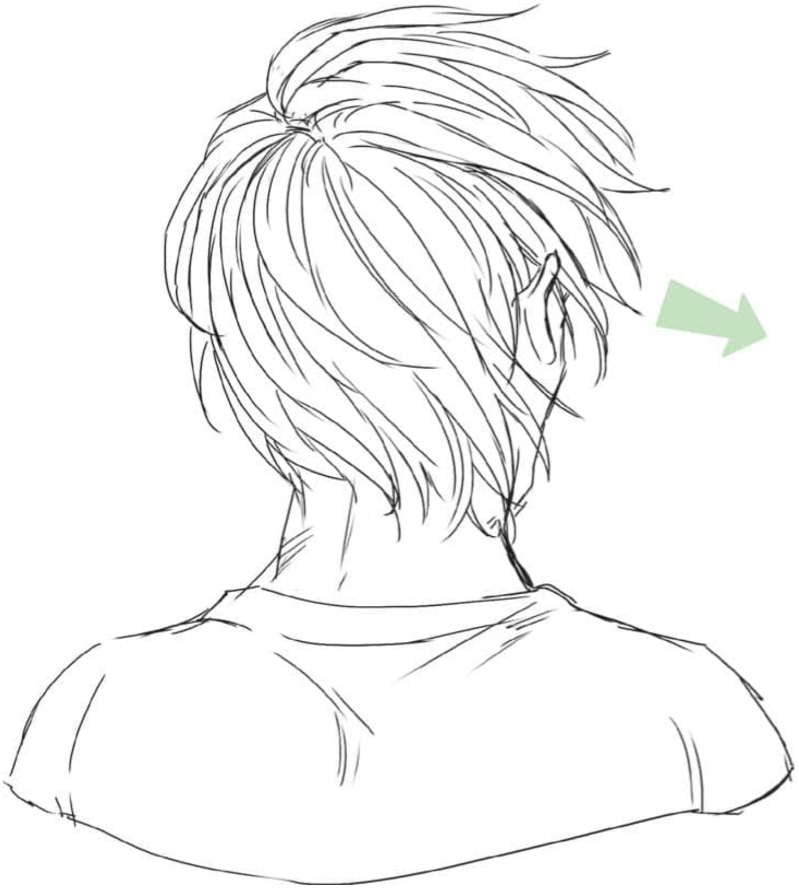


TIP
For a more realistic look, draw small strands of hair not blowing in the breeze.

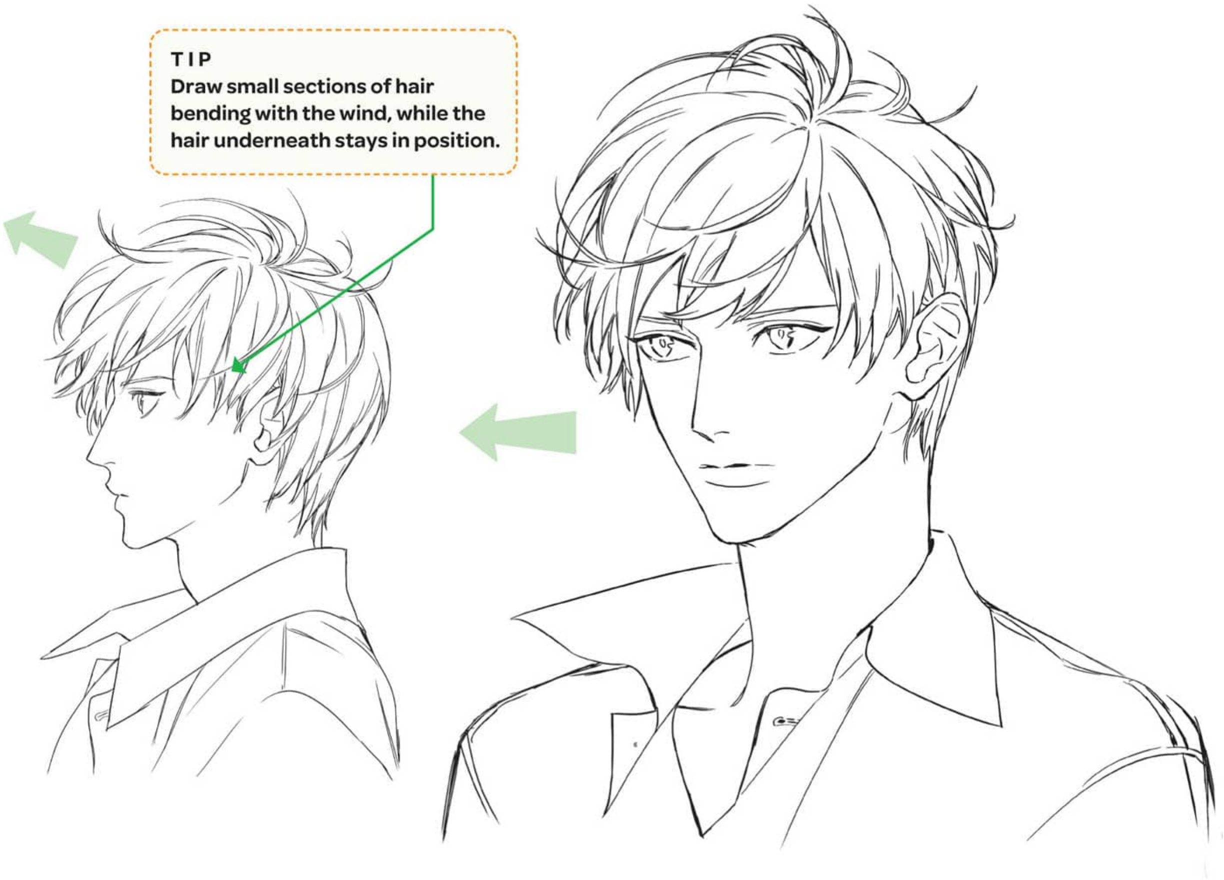
By drawing the hair flowing in the same direction as the wind, there is a sense of unity to the movement. The ends of the hair bend toward the ground and curl inward due to the weight of the hair.



When the wind blows from the front of a character, the air flows backward along the head. So, the airflow from the face to the top of the head lifts the bangs and the hair on the top of the head.

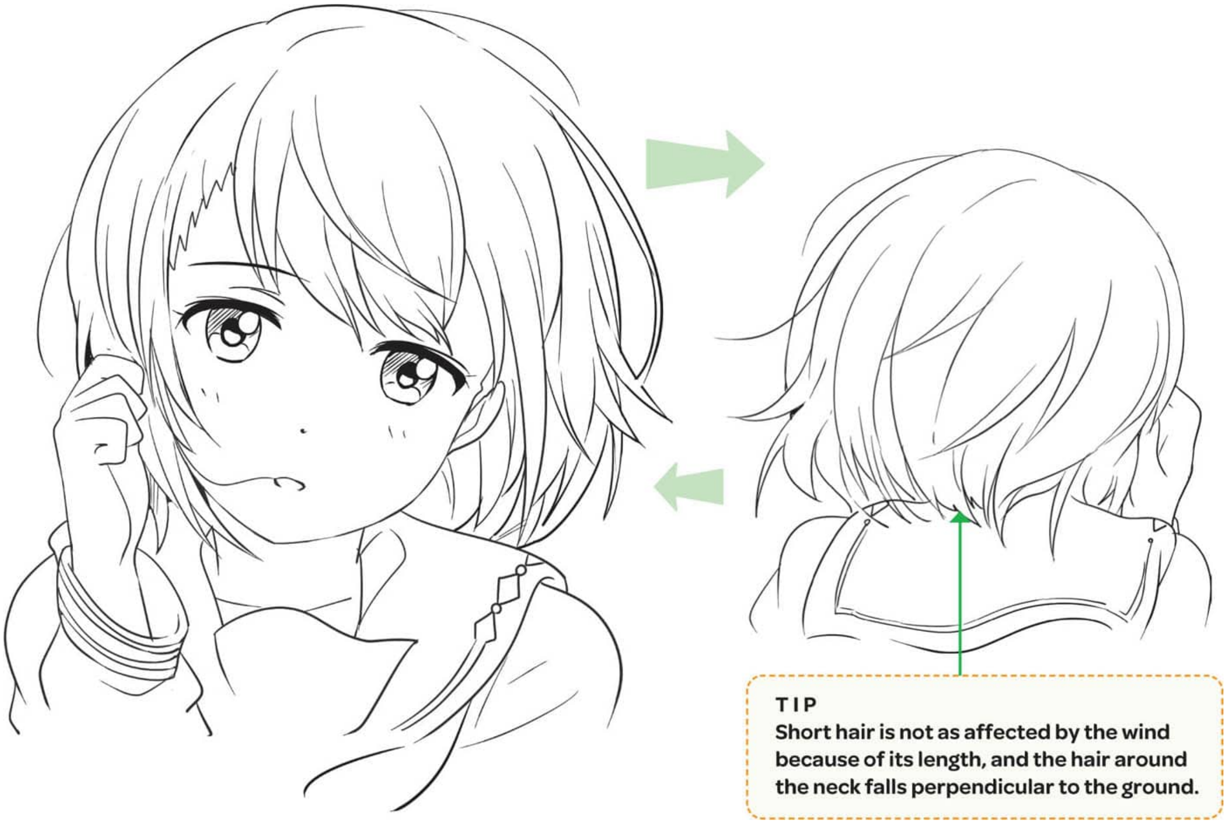


Draw the hair flowing along the contours of the head when a character’s back is to the wind.



TIP
Draw small sections of hair bending with the wind, while the hair underneath stays in position.

When a breeze is blowing from behind, bend the top hair forward or curl the bangs upward. With a gentle breeze, only a few sections of hair move.



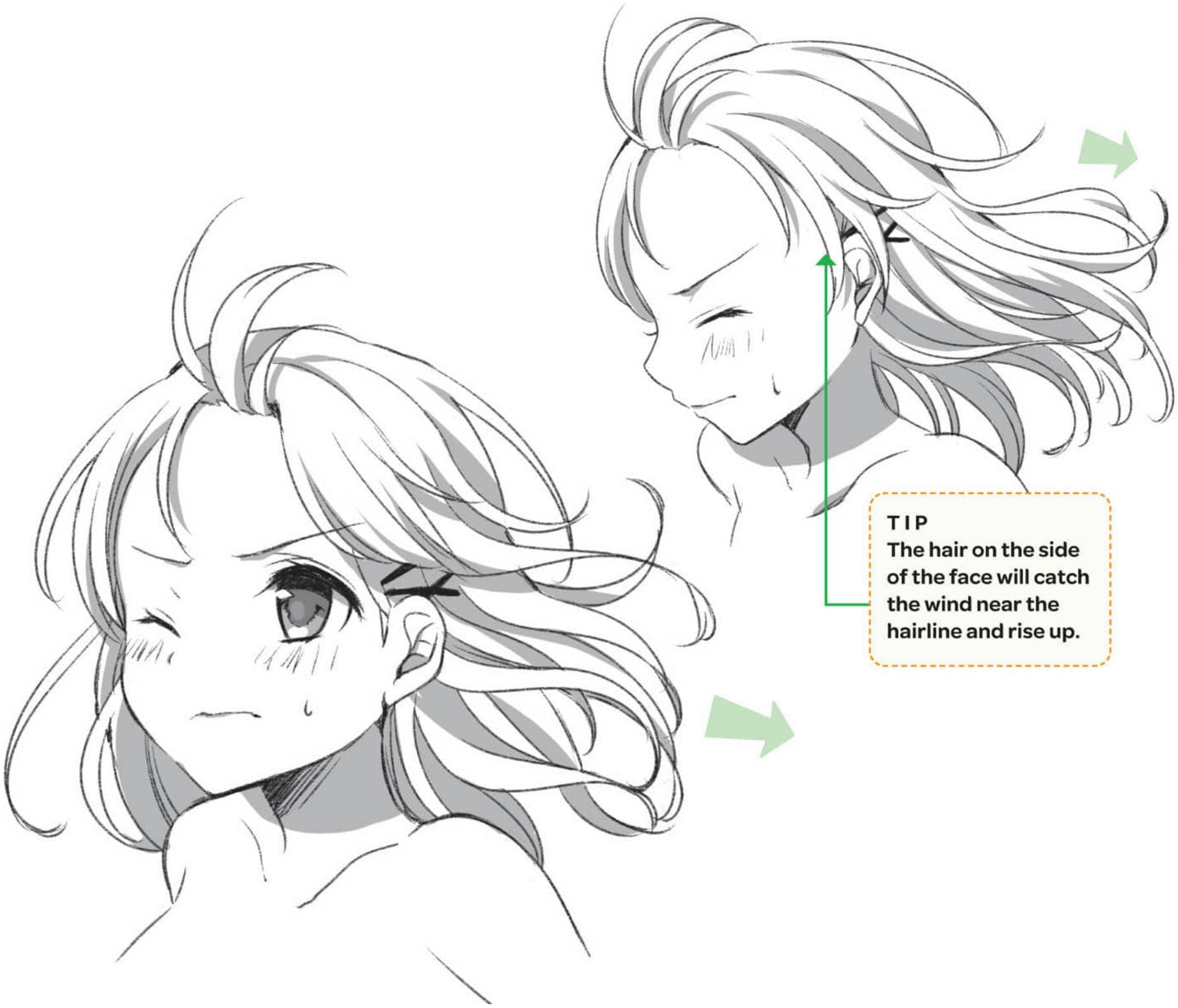
TIP

Short hair is not as affected by the wind because of its length, and the hair around the neck falls perpendicular to the ground.

The hair on the side that receives the wind sticks to the face and loses volume, and the hair on the other side flutters in the direction of the wind.

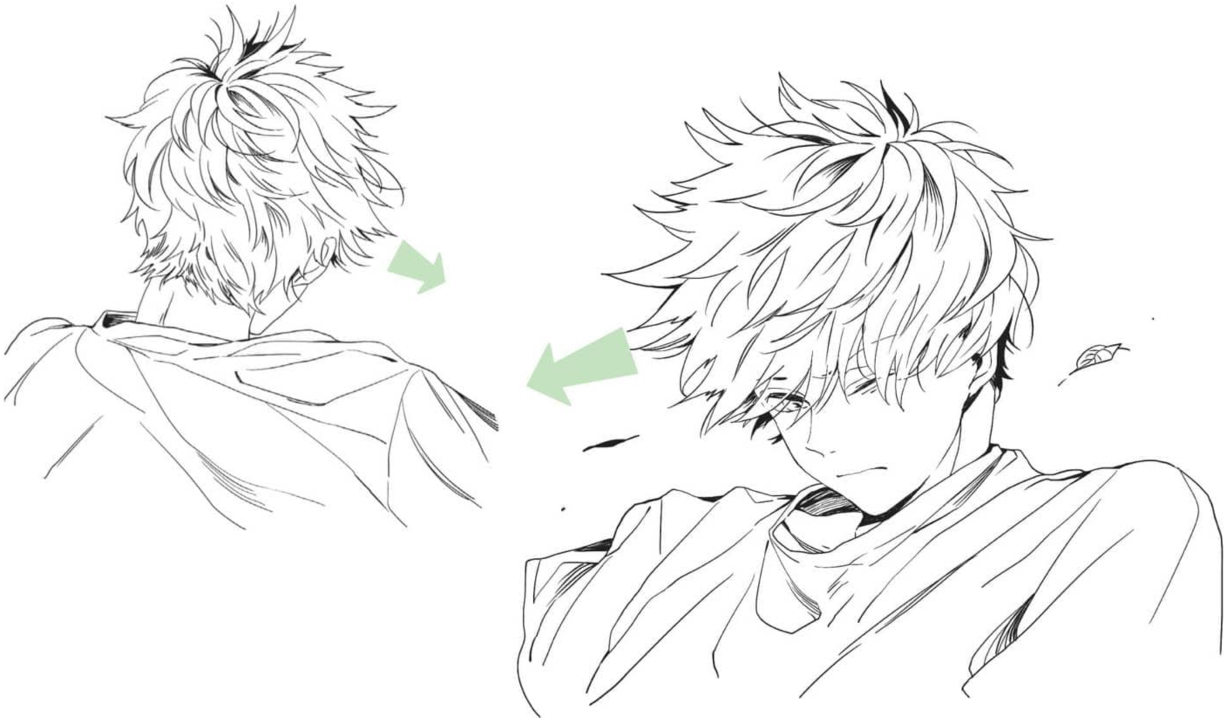
Strong Wind

As the wind blows stronger, the movement of the hair becomes more intense, causing the bangs to rise and sections of hair are disturbed more irregularly.

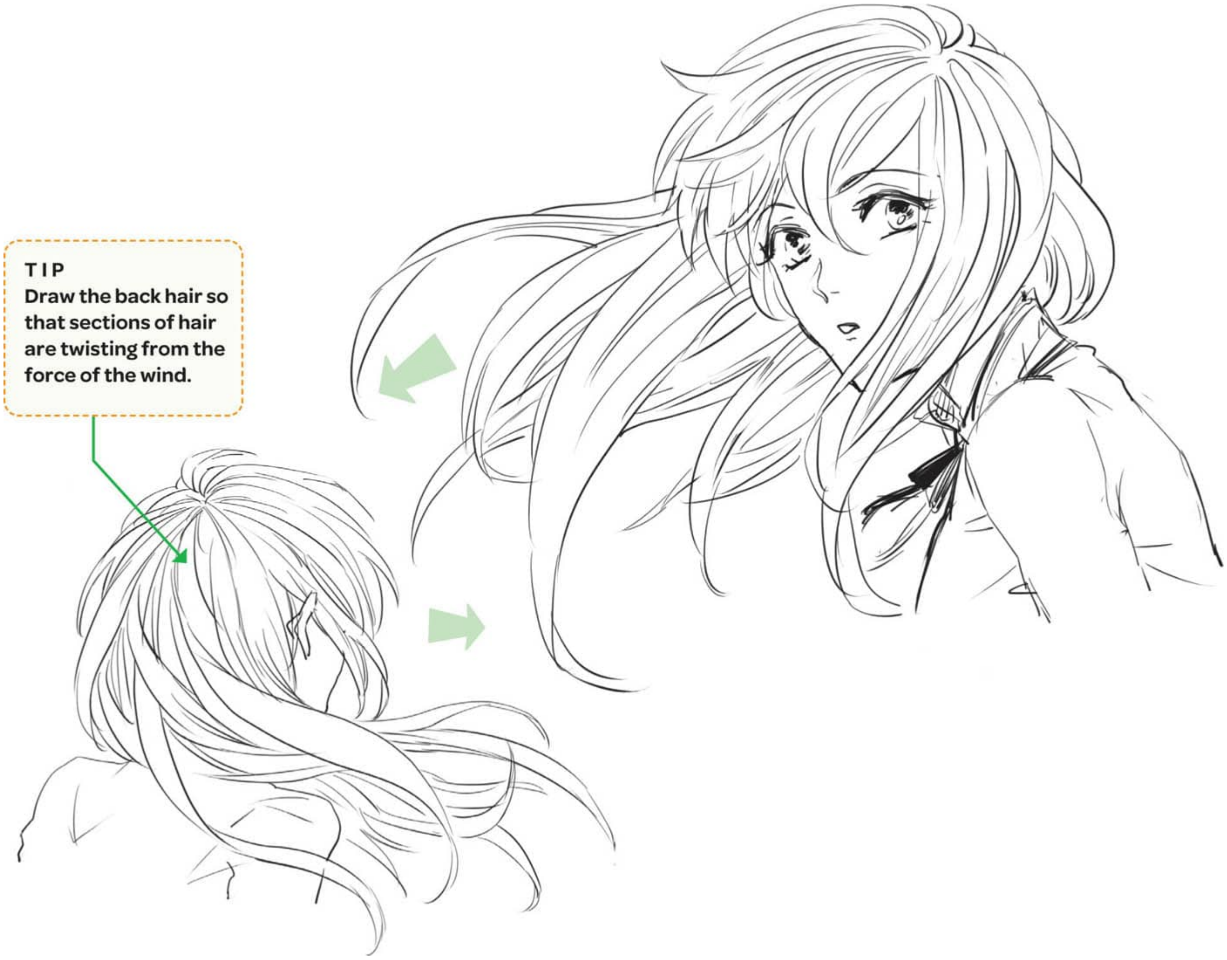


TIP
The hair on the side of the face will catch the wind near the hairline and rise up.

When the wind blows from the front, the bangs will blow straight up in the center and the sides will spread out erratically.

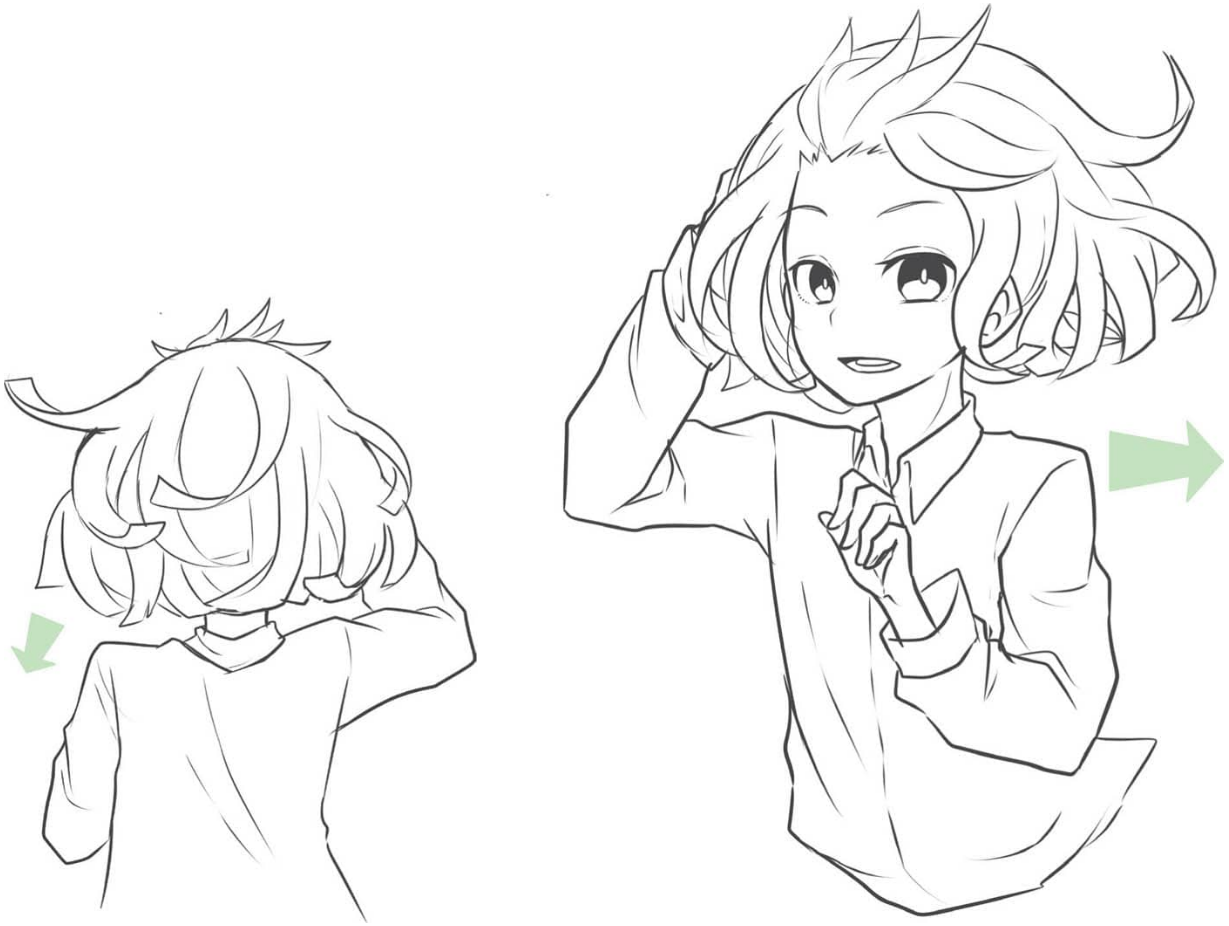


The side hair and bangs flow toward the front of the body and cover the face when a strong wind blows from behind. The hair on the top of the head is more likely to bounce upward when the character tilts their face to avoid the wind.



TIP
Draw the back hair so that sections of hair are twisting from the force of the wind.

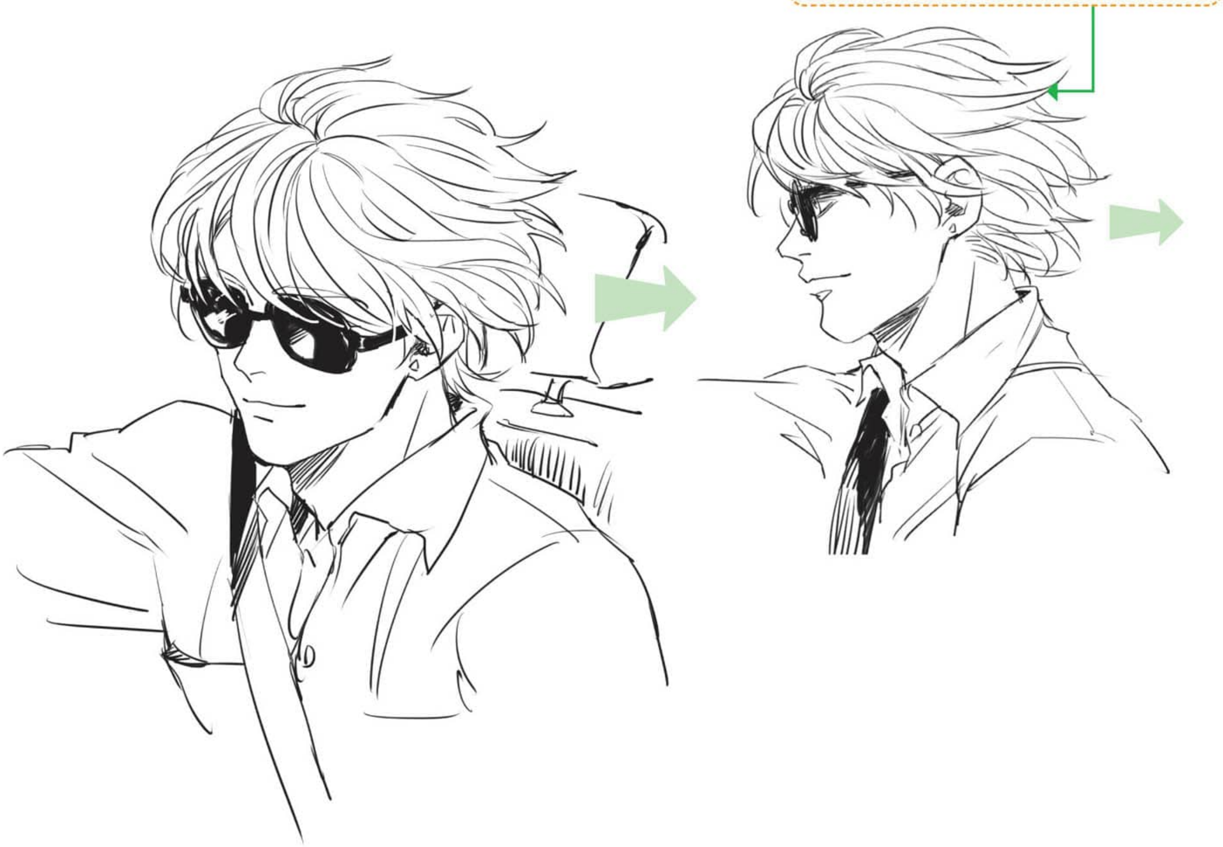
For long hair, draw the hair flowing from the crown of the head along the flow of the wind when it is blowing from behind.



For medium-length hair, flip the center part of the bangs straight up and spread the side and back sections of hair out wide.

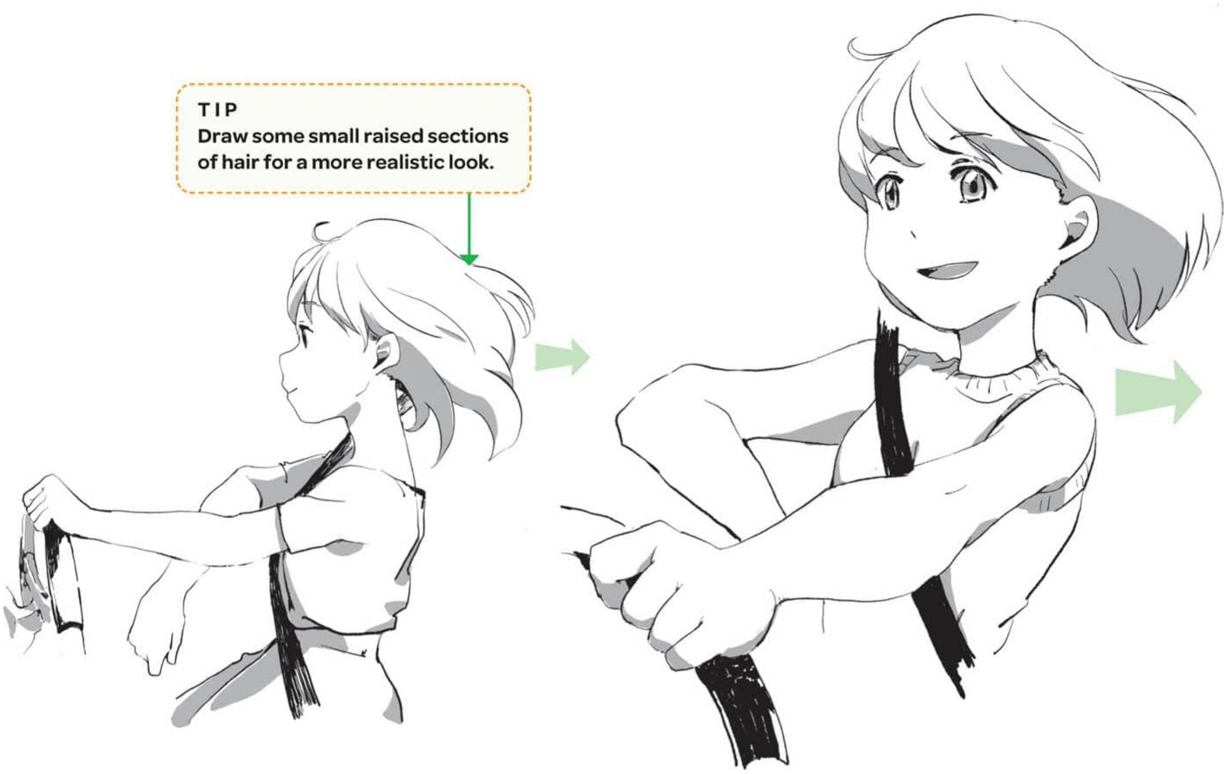
Wind While Driving

When riding in an open-air vehicle that moves at high speed, such as a convertible or a vehicle with open windows, hair moves as if it were blown from the front by a strong wind due to air resistance.



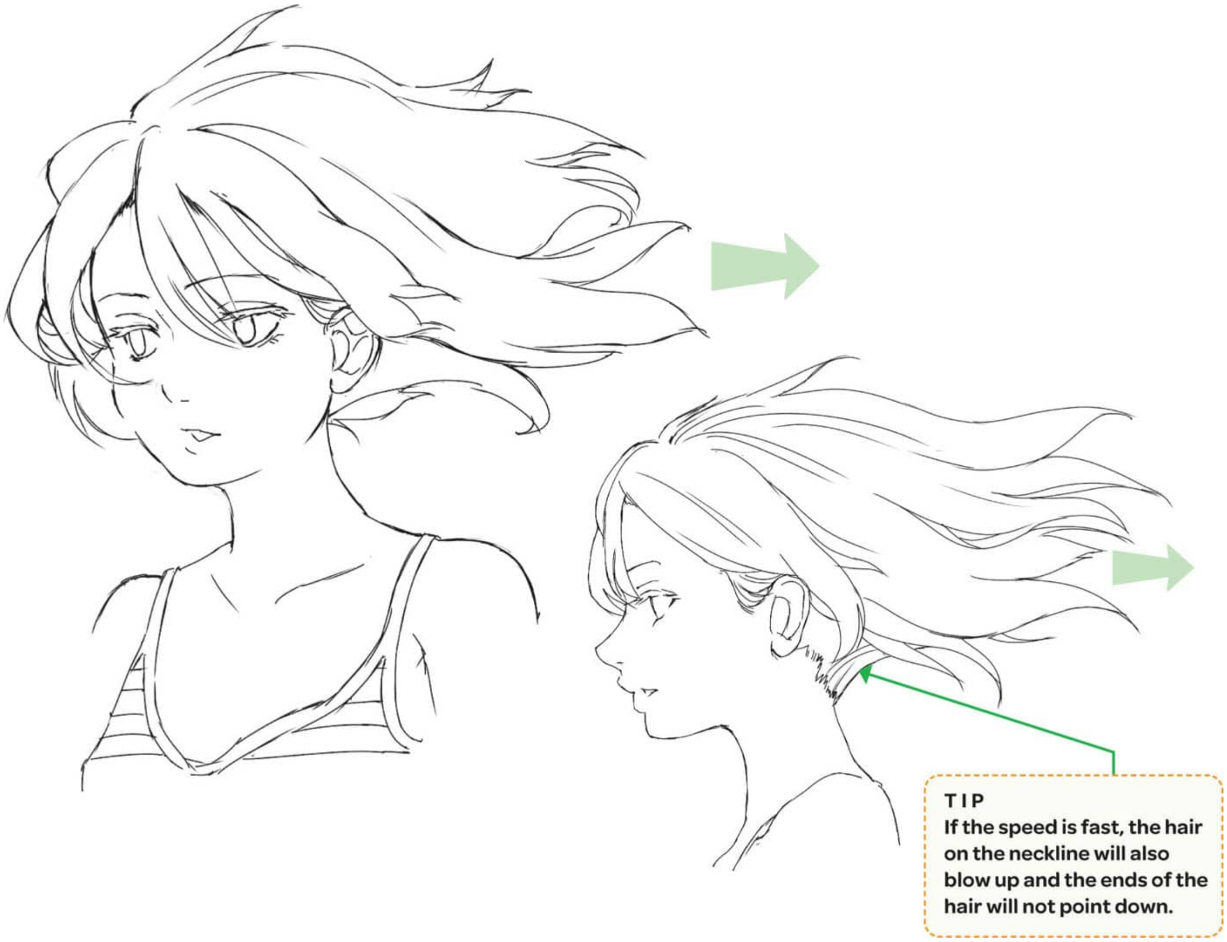
TIP
In the case of short hair, the ends of the hair near the crown point upward, and the ends of the hair point downward as they get closer to the bottom.

When in a moving car, hair is impacted by air resistance equal to that of a head-on wind with almost constant direction and velocity. However, unlike the wind that blows from different angles, the hair blows purely toward the back.



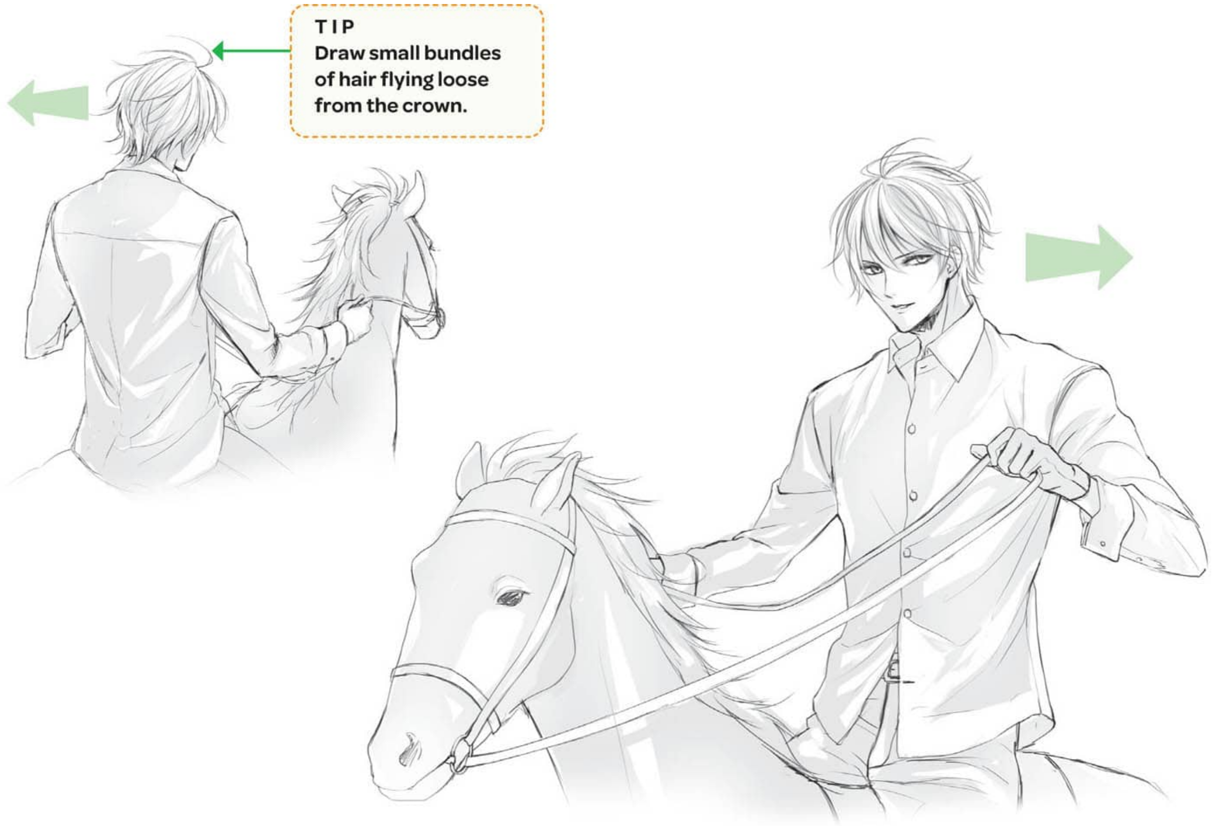
TIP
Draw some small raised sections of hair for a more realistic look.

Medium-length hair is longer and heavier than short hair, so the hair does not float as much, and the ends of the hair point downward.



TIP
If the speed is fast, the hair on the neckline will also blow up and the ends of the hair will not point down.

When riding in a vehicle that moves at high speed, the hair will flutter in the direction of acceleration. The hair on the top of the head also flows backward.

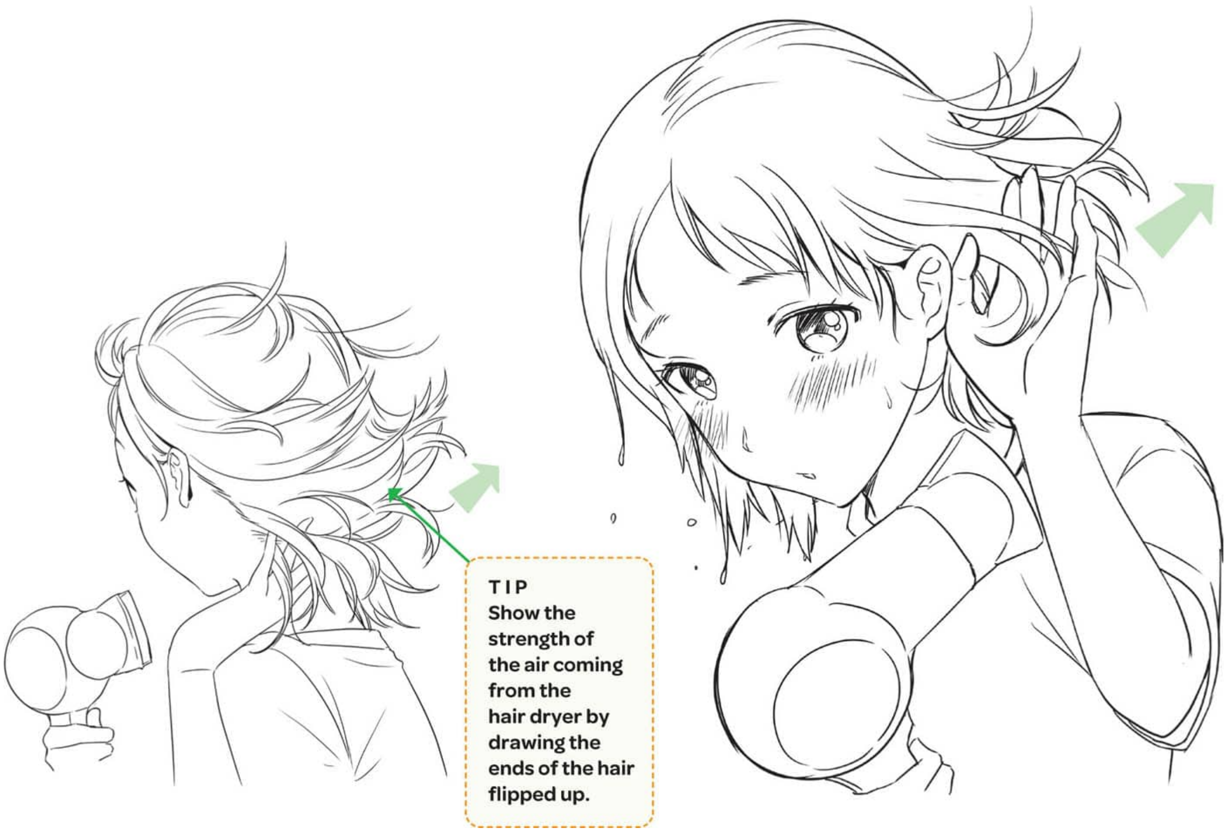


TIP
Draw small bundles of hair flying loose from the crown.

Galloping up and down on a horse produces a similar effect to riding in a car. The hair on top of the head bounces to the side and back. The key to making the movement look graceful is not adding too much bounce to the hair.

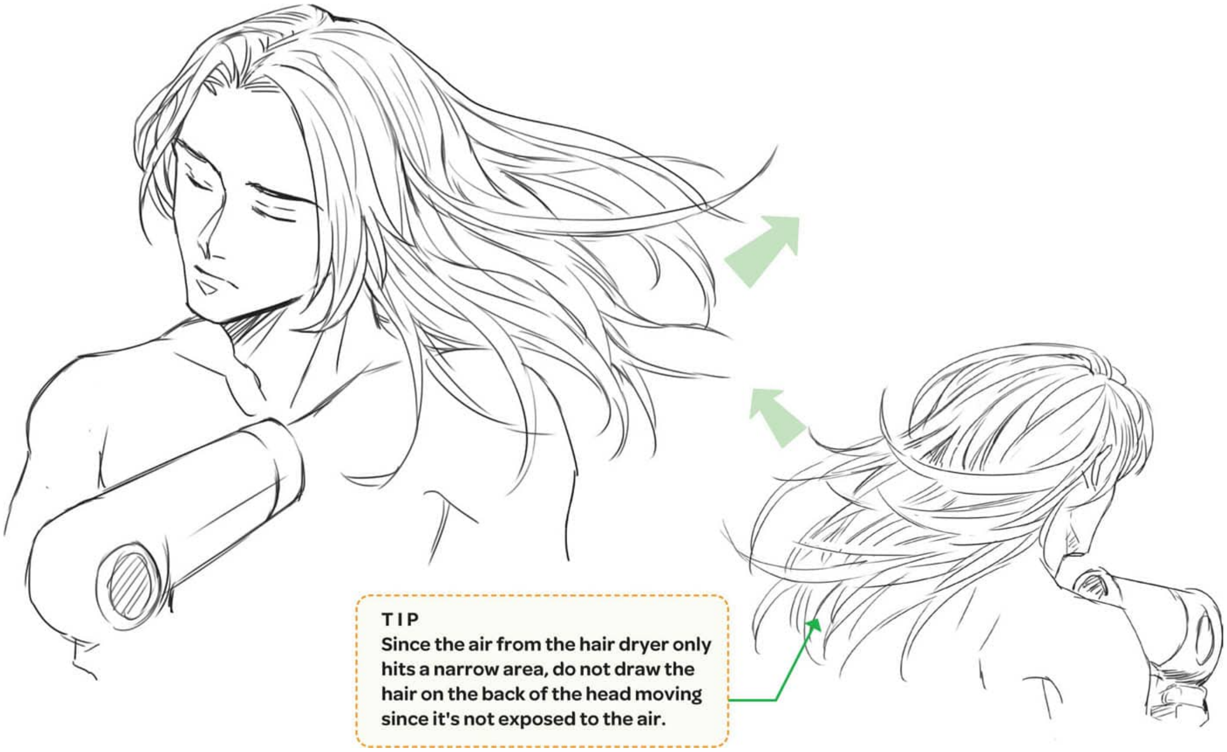
Blow Drying Wet Hair

Hair dryers generate strong, hot air that blows very hard in a narrow area. The tunnel of air creates a unique movement that only affects small areas of hair, not the whole head.



TIP
Show the strength of the air coming from the hair dryer by drawing the ends of the hair flipped up.

Draw the wettest hair so that it looks limp with droplets of water falling from the ends. Where the hair dryer is aimed, draw the ends of the hair bouncing in the air.

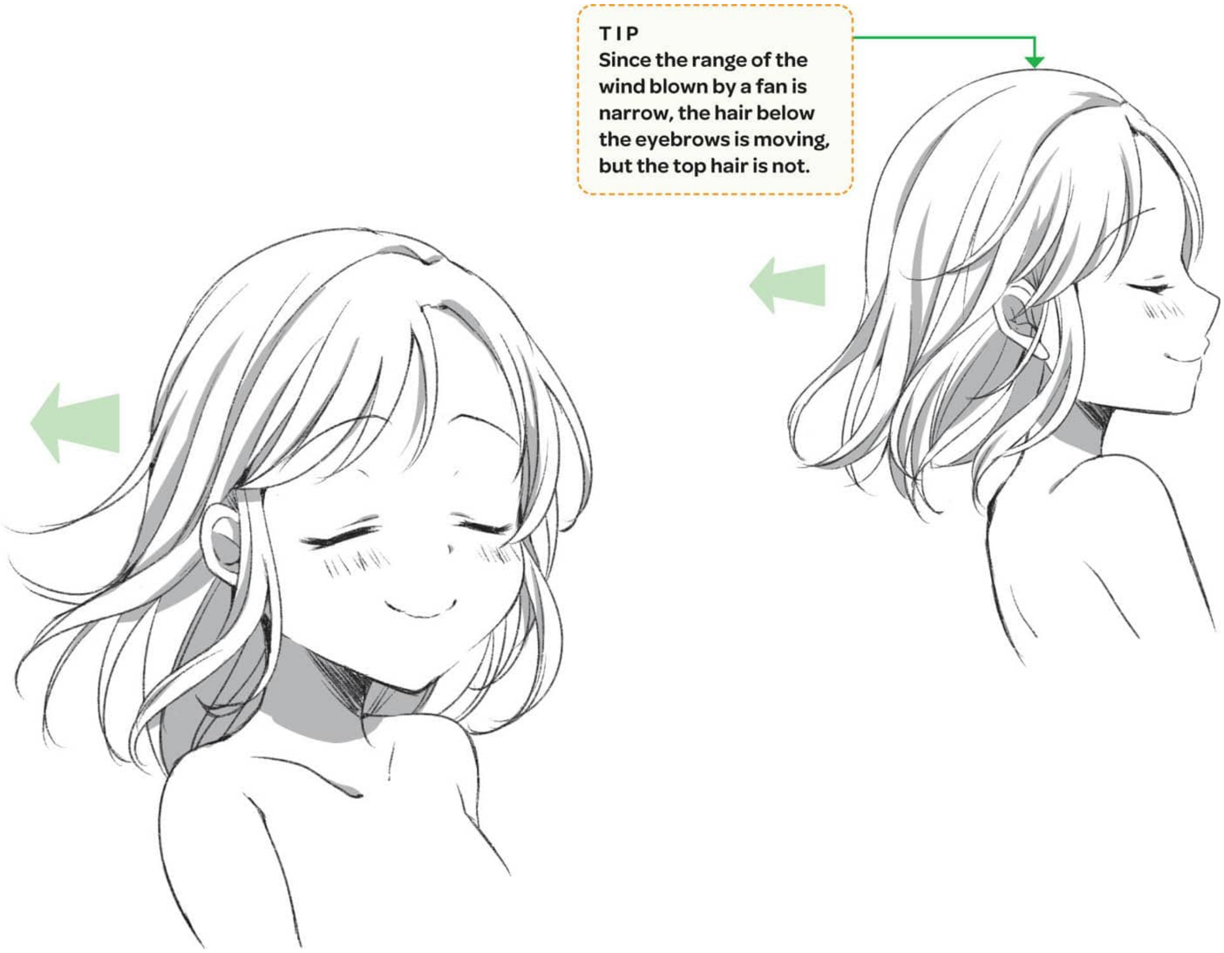


TIP
Since the air from the hair dryer only hits a narrow area, do not draw the hair on the back of the head moving since it's not exposed to the air.

Create the impression that the hair is almost dry by drawing a number of the sections of hair floating up with the wind of the hair dryer.

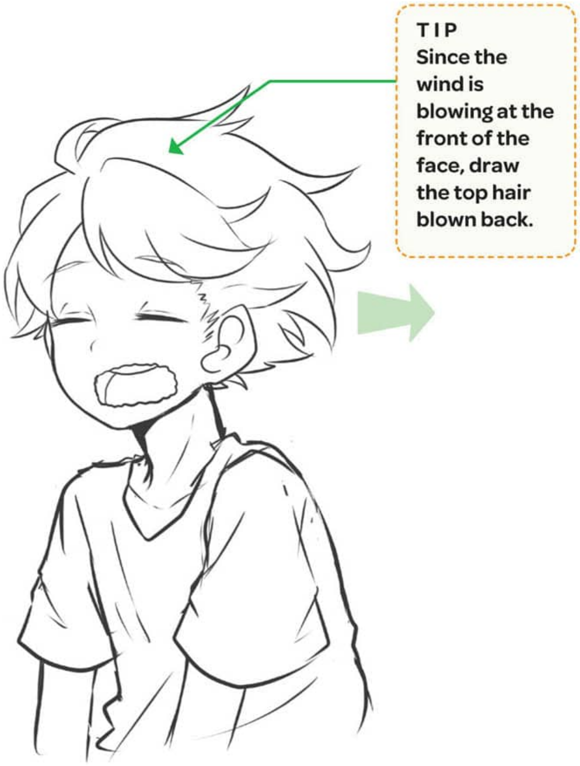
Electric Fan

The breeze given off by an electric fan is straight, and usually comes from one direction. Depending on the setting, you can create a gentle breeze or a strong wind that changes the shape of the hair.

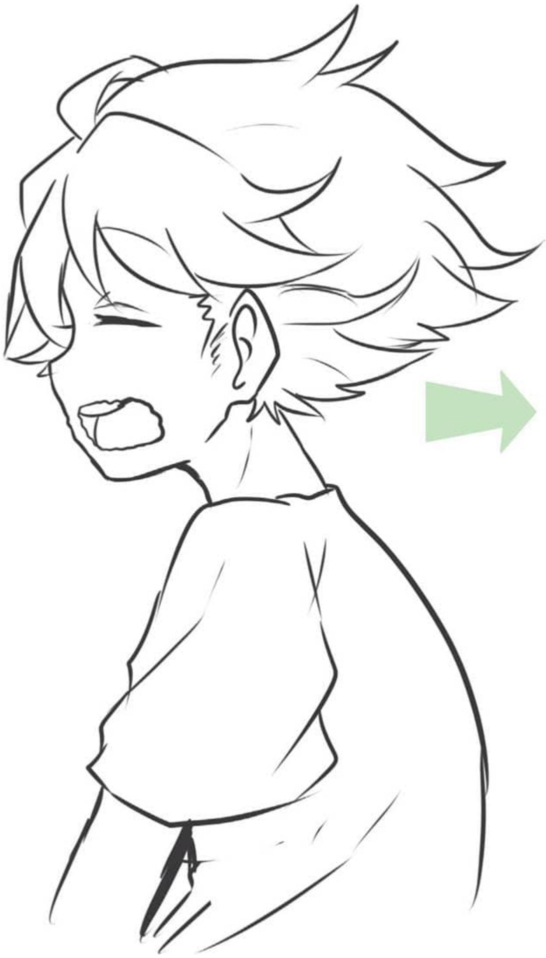


TIP
Since the range of the wind blown by a fan is narrow, the hair below the eyebrows is moving, but the top hair is not.

You can make it look like a character is enjoying a breeze from an electric fan by drawing sections of hair that gently flow from the front to the back without changing the bangs much.



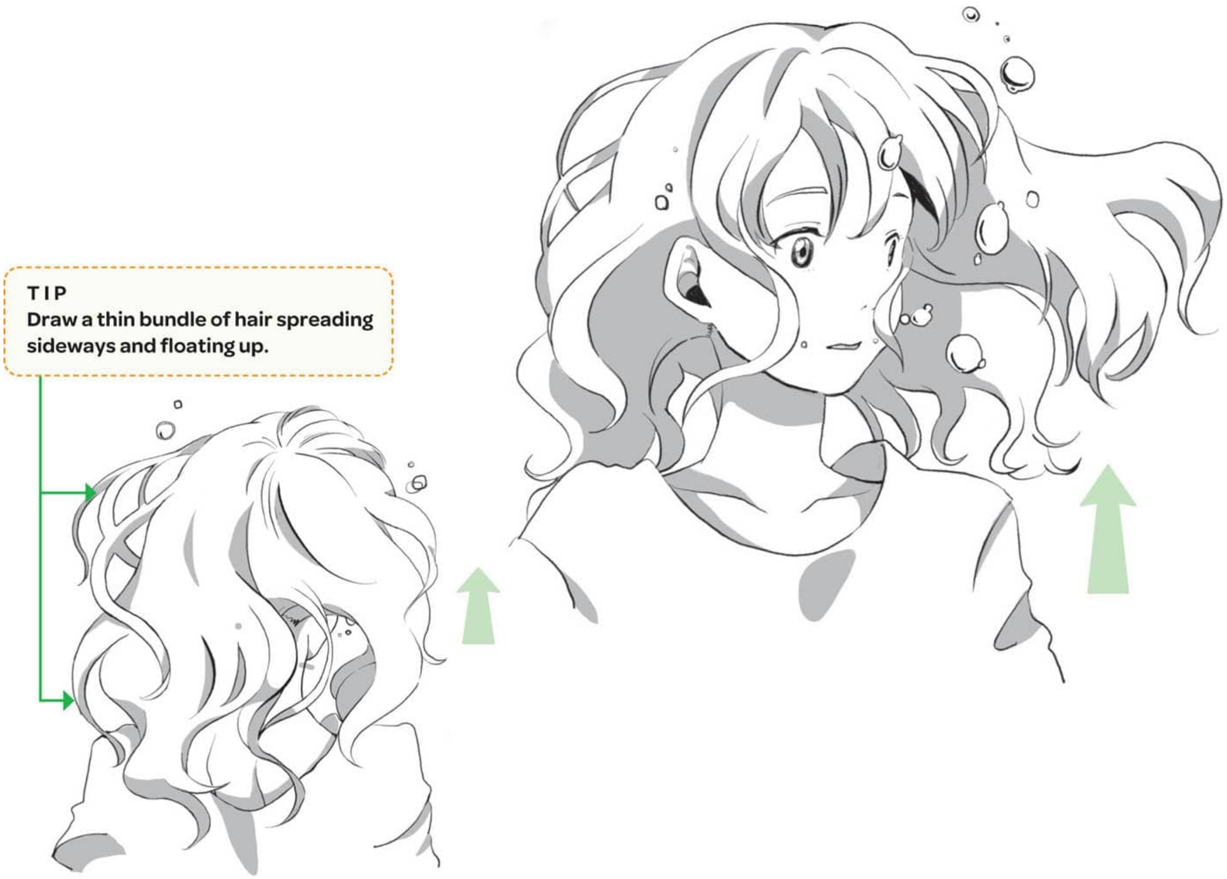
TIP
Since the wind is blowing at the front of the face, draw the top hair blown back.



At higher settings, electric fans can provide a stronger wind. In this case, the bangs are blown against the face and the hair on the sides of the head blows backward.

Underwater

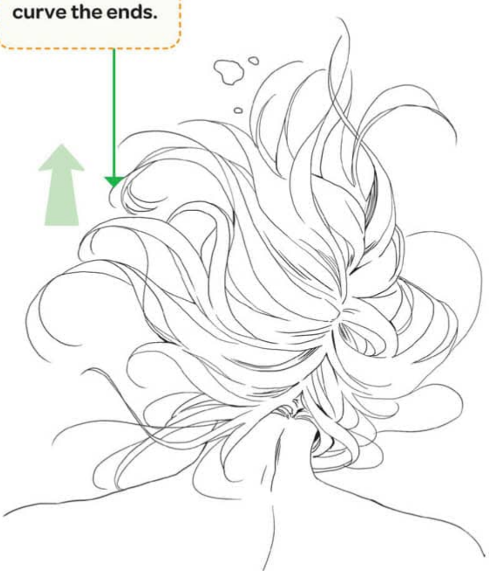
When floating in water, the hair spreads up, down, left, and right. The hair does not easily form small, defined sections. Instead, the hair floats in larger sections.

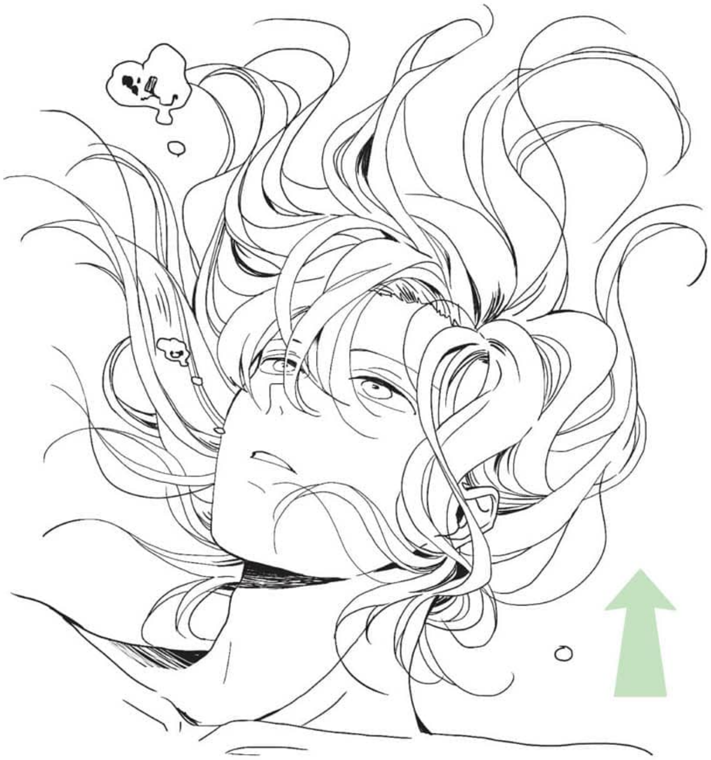


TIP
Draw a thin bundle of hair spreading sideways and floating up.

Hair has a low density and floats easily. So, when the body is submerged, the entire head of hair expands and floats due to buoyancy.

TIP
Stretch sections of hair in various directions and curve the ends.

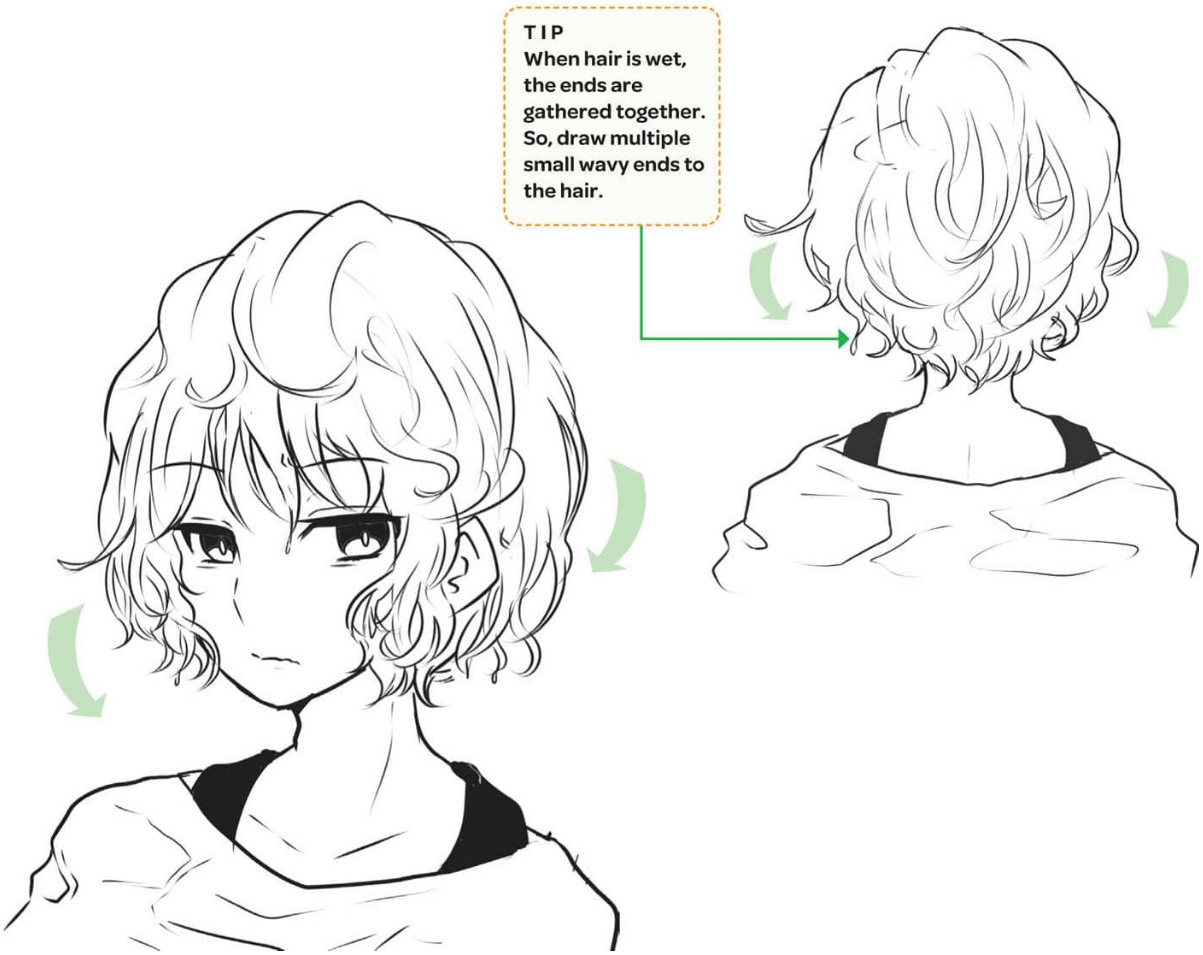




When sinking in the water, the back hair will sway and spread in front of the face. The key is to draw many thin and wavy hair bundles.

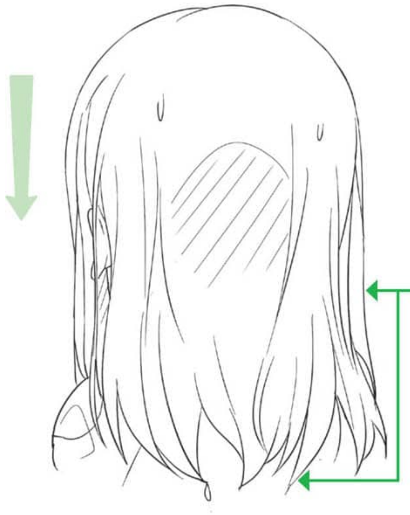
Wet Hair

When hair is wet, the hair bundles more and sticks to the skin, resulting in lower volume.

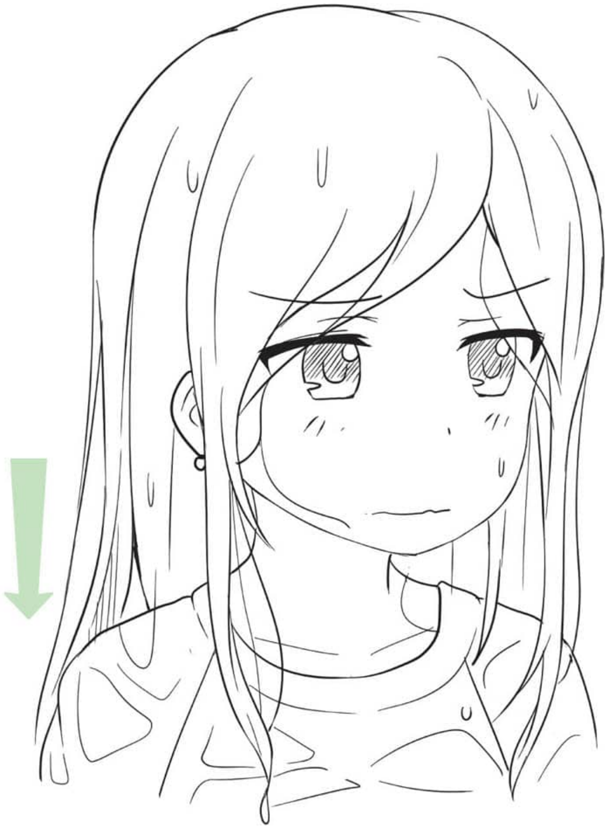


TIP
When hair is wet, the ends are gathered together. So, draw multiple small wavy ends to the hair.

The bangs and side sections of hair stick to the face when wet. The silhouette of the hair also flows along the shape of the head, and countless wavy bundles show the texture of wet hair.



TIP
The weight of water causes the hair to hang down.



Hair sticks to the skin and the volume of the top of the head is lost. Add droplets of water rolling down the head to further express that the hair is heavy with water.

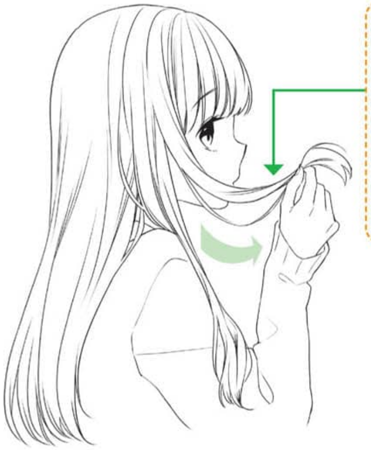
Hair and Daily Actions

In daily life, we touch and play with our hair in countless ways, and it’s the same for manga characters. Whether fixing bangs or tucking hair behind the ears, you can create more realistic characters that display lifelike movements.

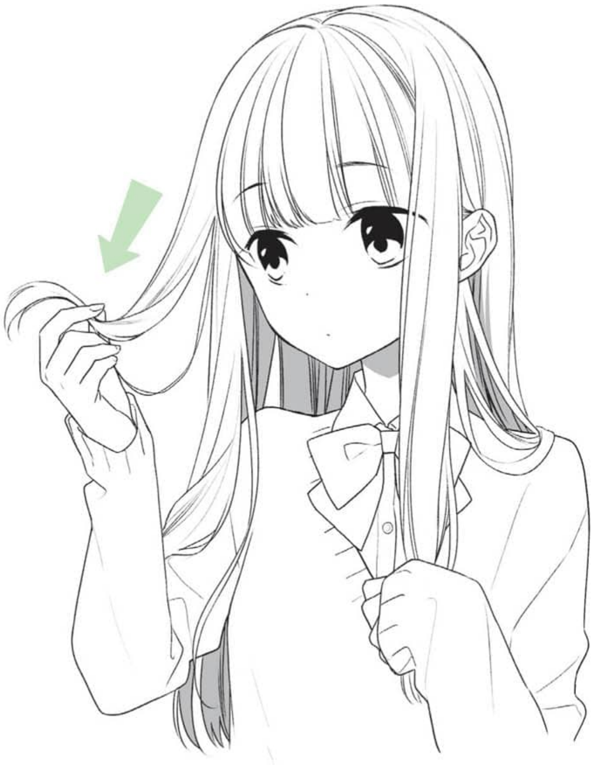
⇠ **Body Movement** ⇦ **Hair Movement**

Touching Hair with Fingers

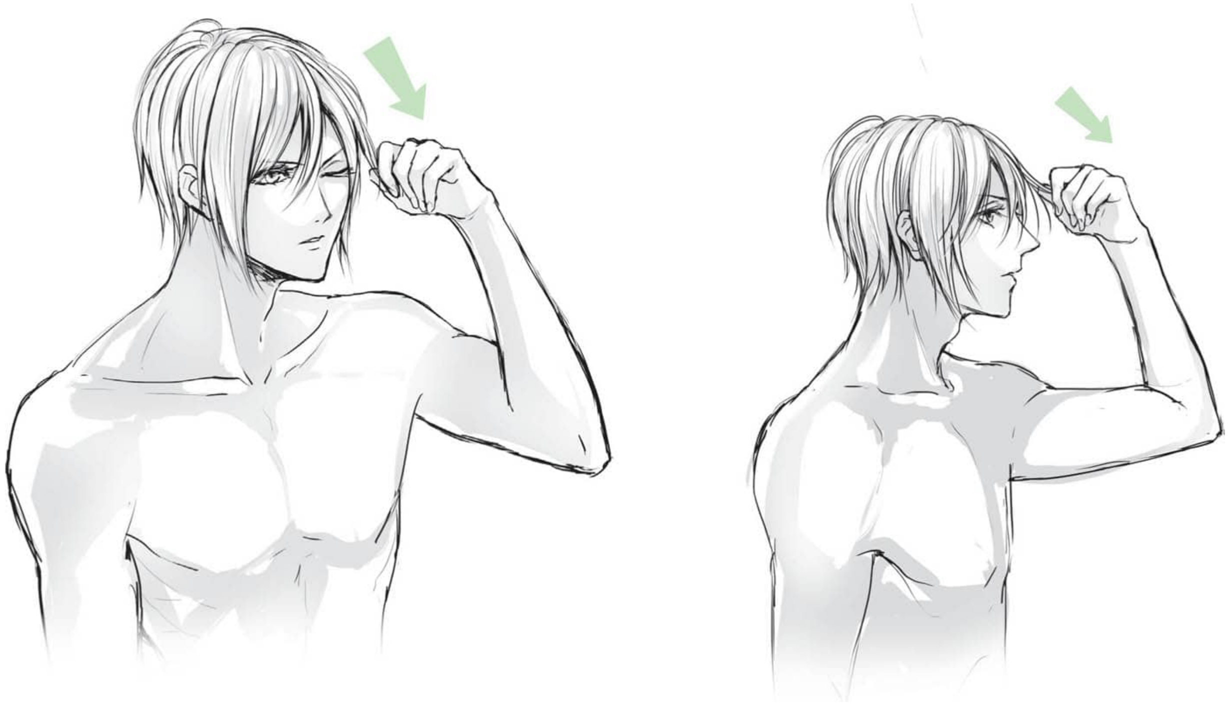
Characters often touch their hair to neaten it up or to examine it more closely. Draw the hair being pinched or pulled by the fingers. Pay attention to the way this movement changes the shape of the hair.



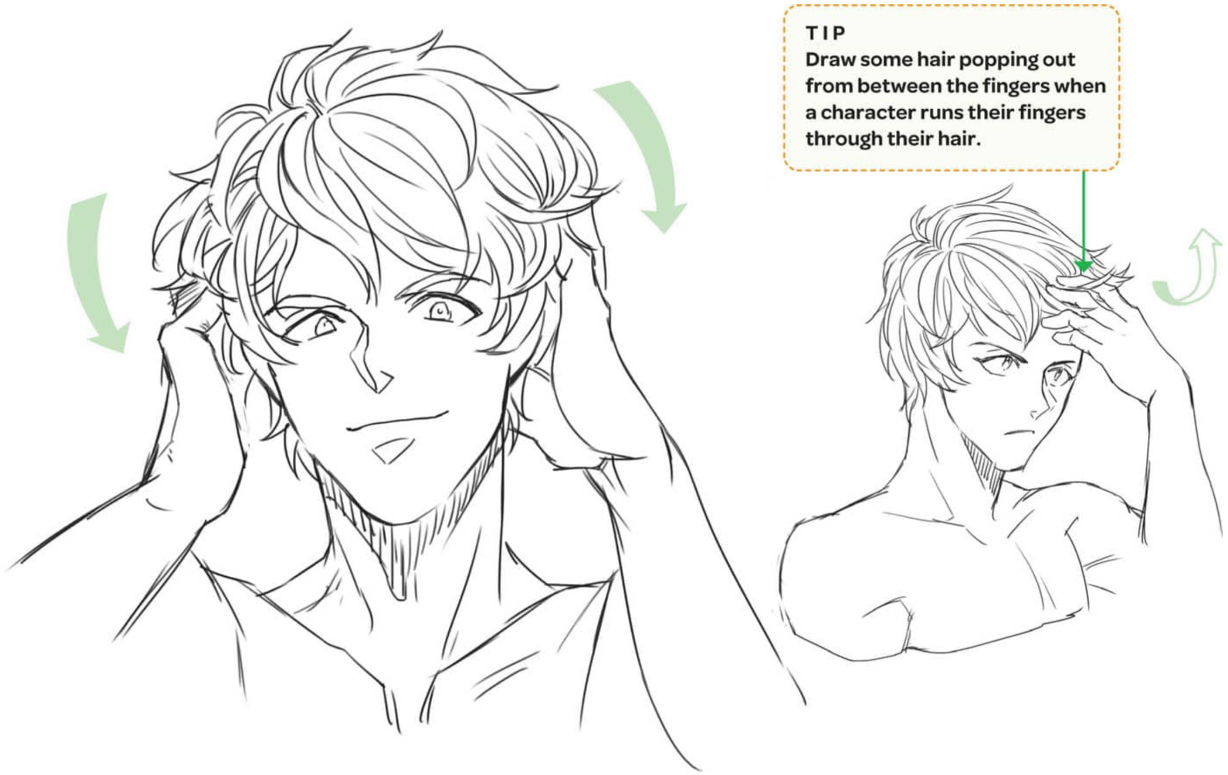
TIP
Create a three-dimensional effect by drawing the hair flowing to the point of the pinch, and then spreading again at the ends beyond.



When touching straight hair, it hangs down lightly at the ends. Make the section being lifted have a soft swoop and draw a soft bend in the end of the hair.

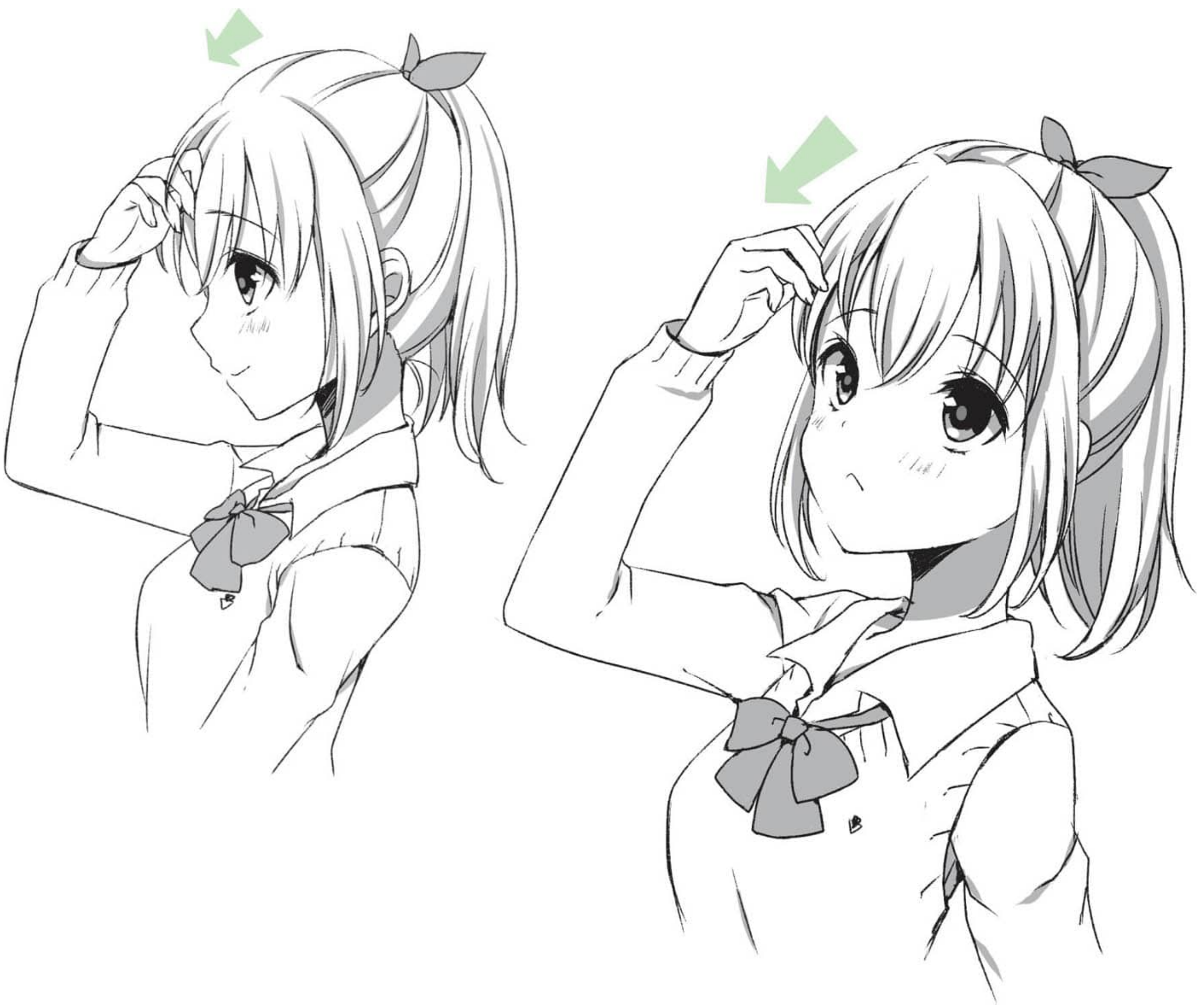


Since the section of bangs is being pulled by the fingers, the hair stretches toward them.

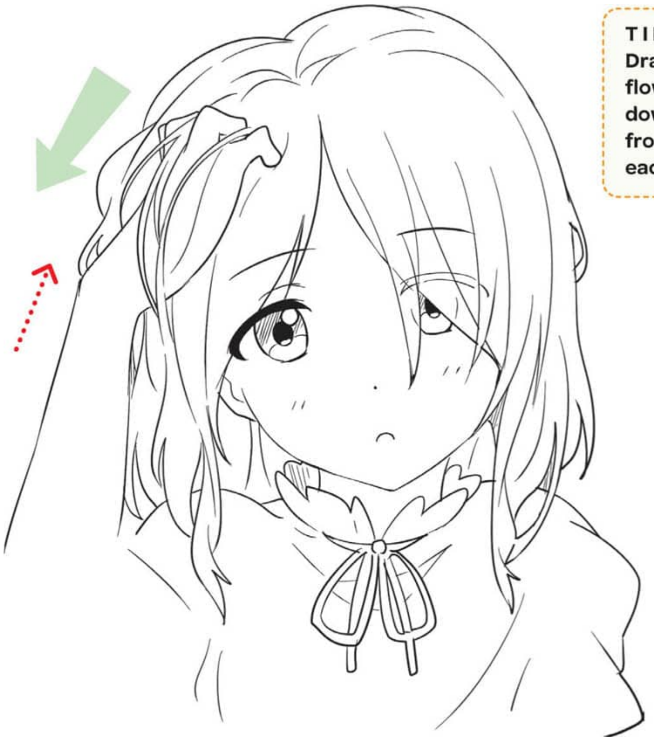


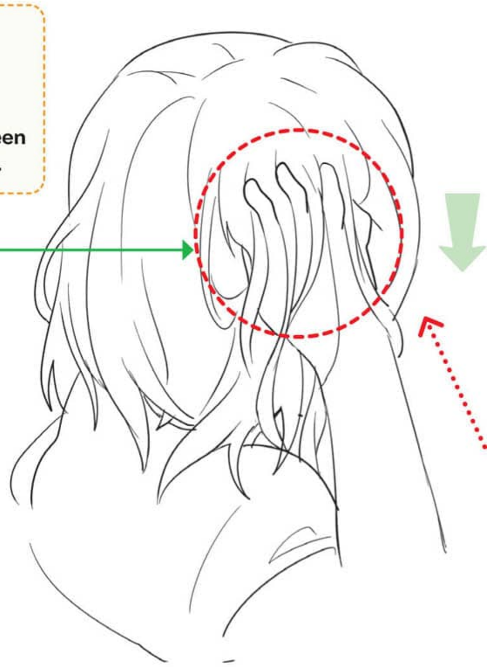
TIP
Draw some hair popping out from between the fingers when a character runs their fingers through their hair.

When a character runs their hands through their hair to give it volume, the hair covers the majority of the fingers. The longer the hair, the more of the hands will be covered.



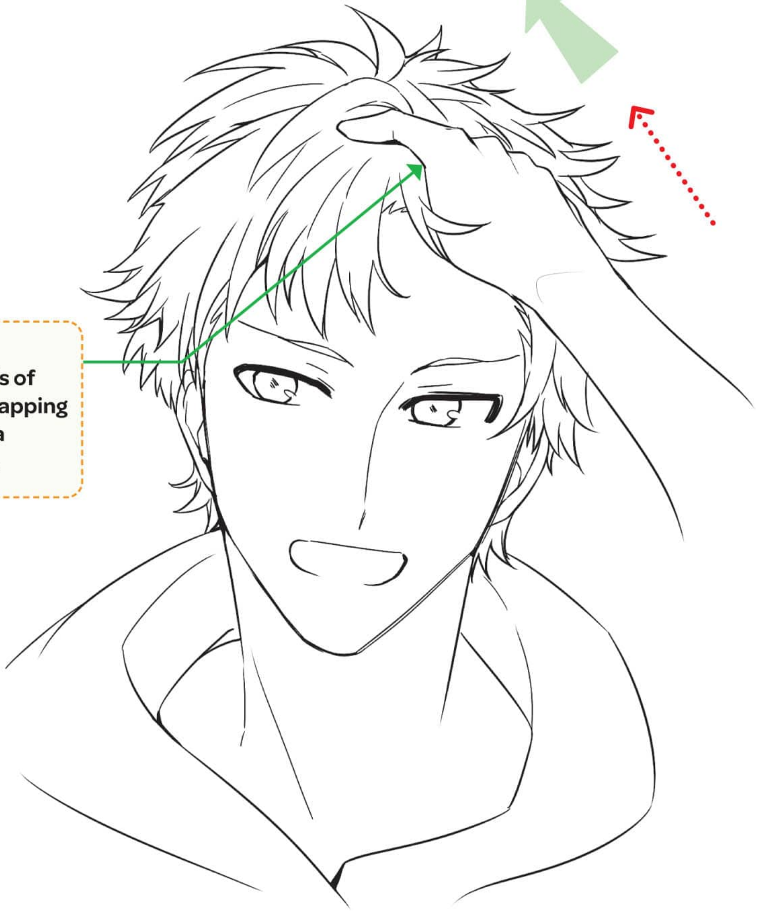
Position a bundle or two of hair on top of the fingers to create a three-dimensional effect when drawing a character fixing their hair.





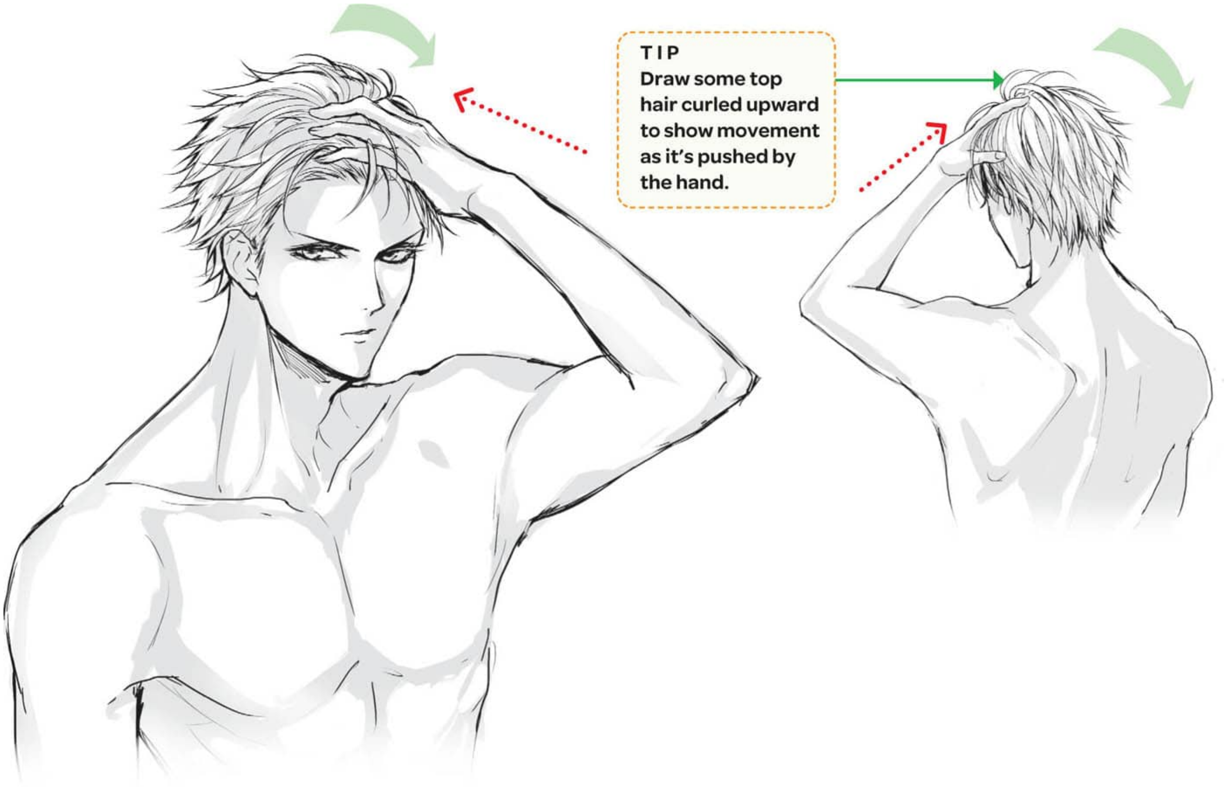
TIP
Draw hair flowing downward from between each finger.

Since the fingers are inserted from under the bangs, a number of thin sections of hair pop out from between the fingers. Emphasize the character's confused expression by tilting the head toward the hand.



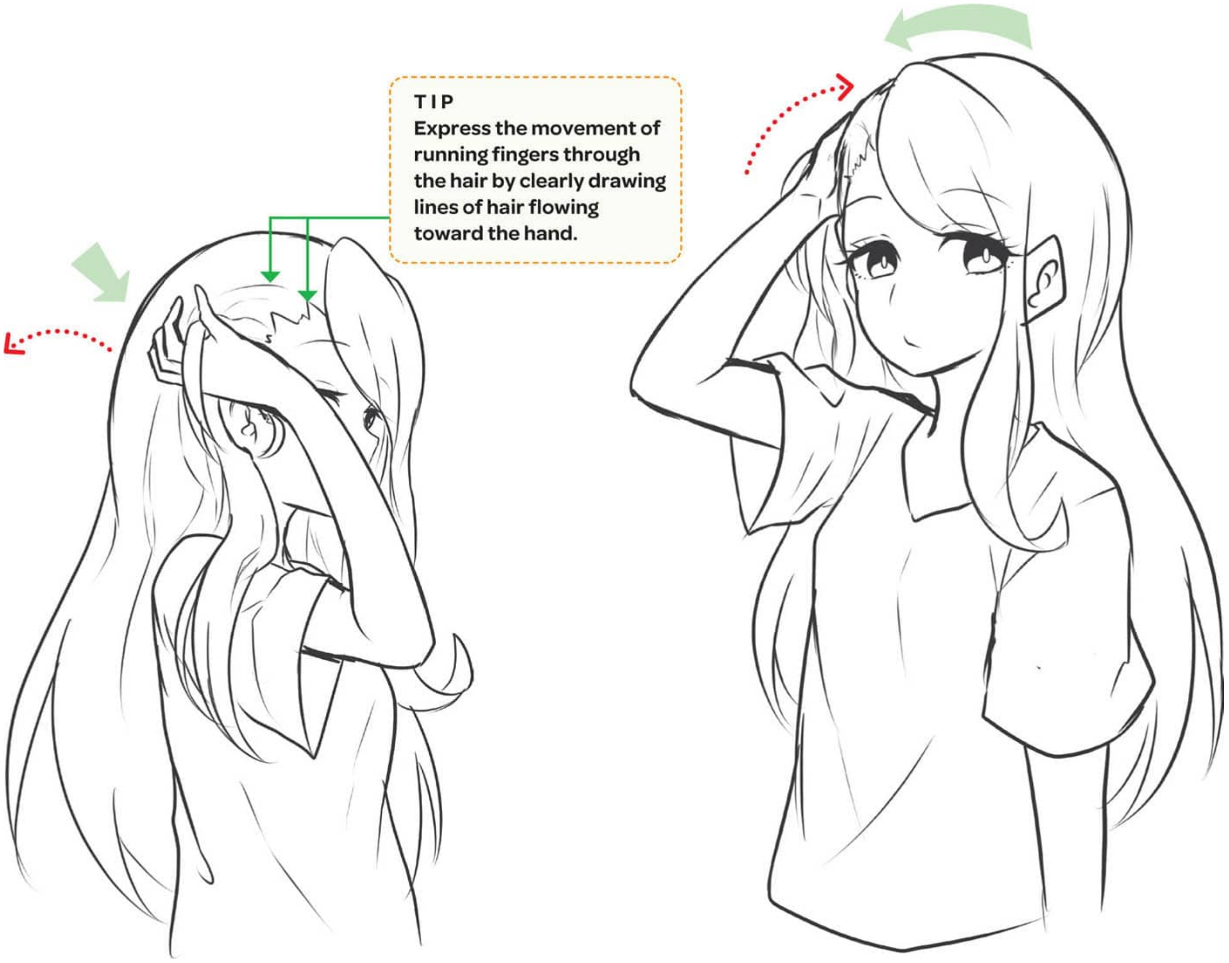
TIP
Draw the ends of the hair overlapping the hand for a realistic look.

When a character's hand pushes against the natural flow of their hair, the ends of the hair will pop up and curl away from the hand.



TIP
Draw some top hair curled upward to show movement as it's pushed by the hand.

Even if the bangs are short, thin sections of hair pop through the gaps between the fingers.

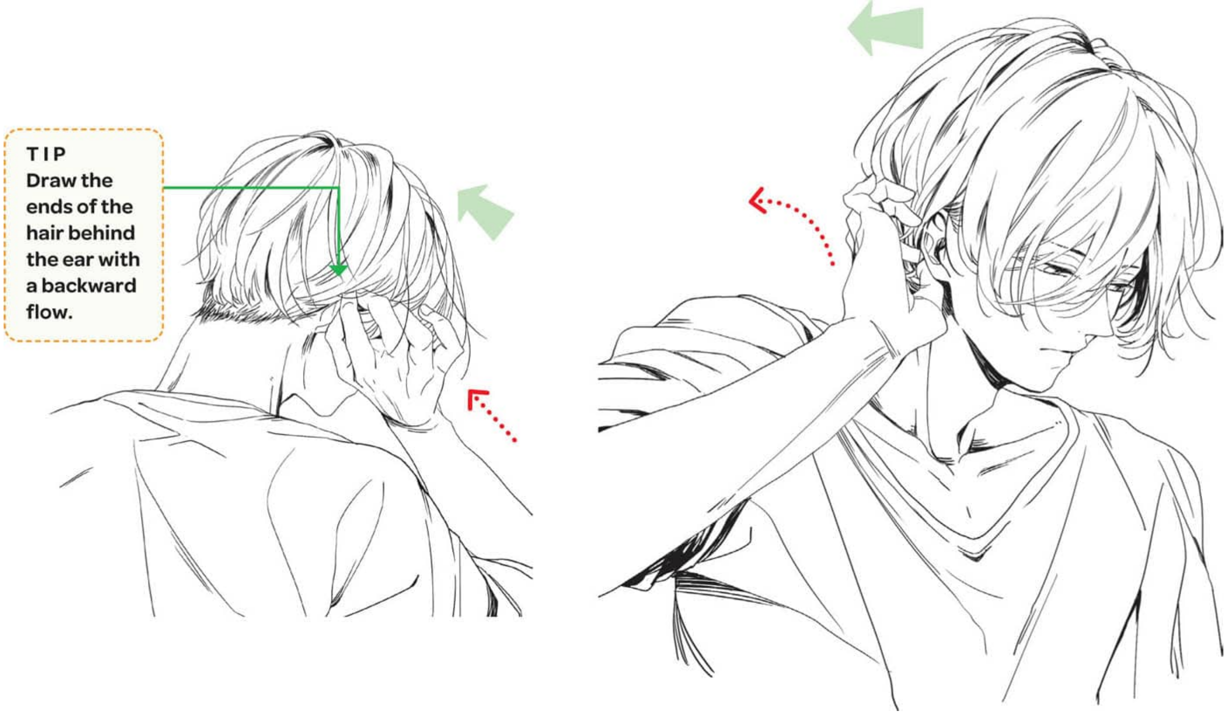


TIP
Express the movement of running fingers through the hair by clearly drawing lines of hair flowing toward the hand.

When running fingers through long hair from the root, the hair flows back from the hairline to the hand.

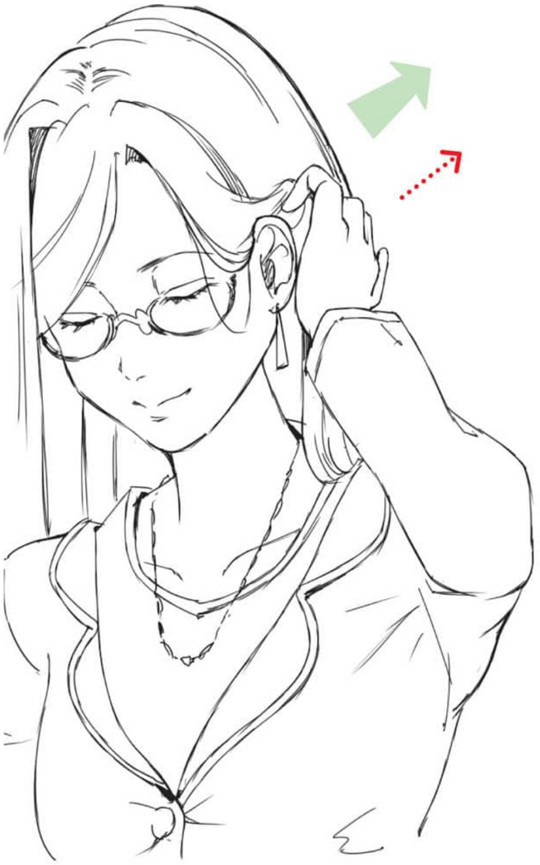
Tucking Behind the Ear

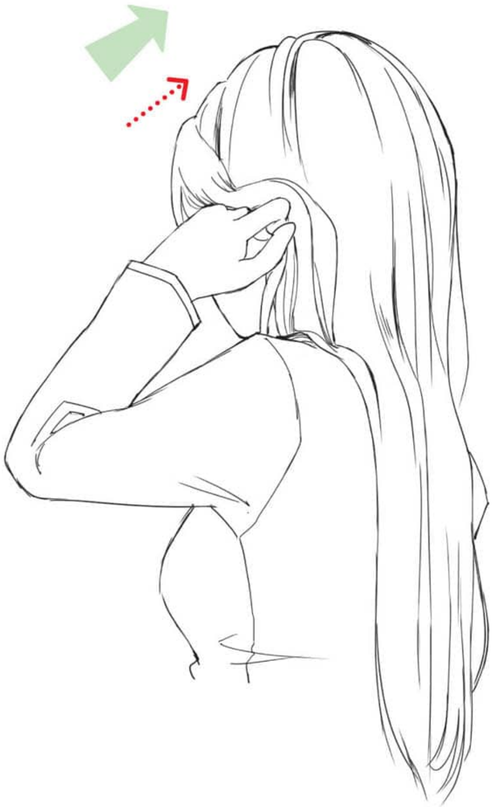
The absentminded gesture of tucking hair behind an ear can add realism to the behavior and personality of your characters.



TIP
Draw the ends of the hair behind the ear with a backward flow.

Here, a character with medium-length hair uses their thumb and forefinger to tuck a section of hair behind their ear from the side of the head. Be sure to draw the fingers bending with the movement.

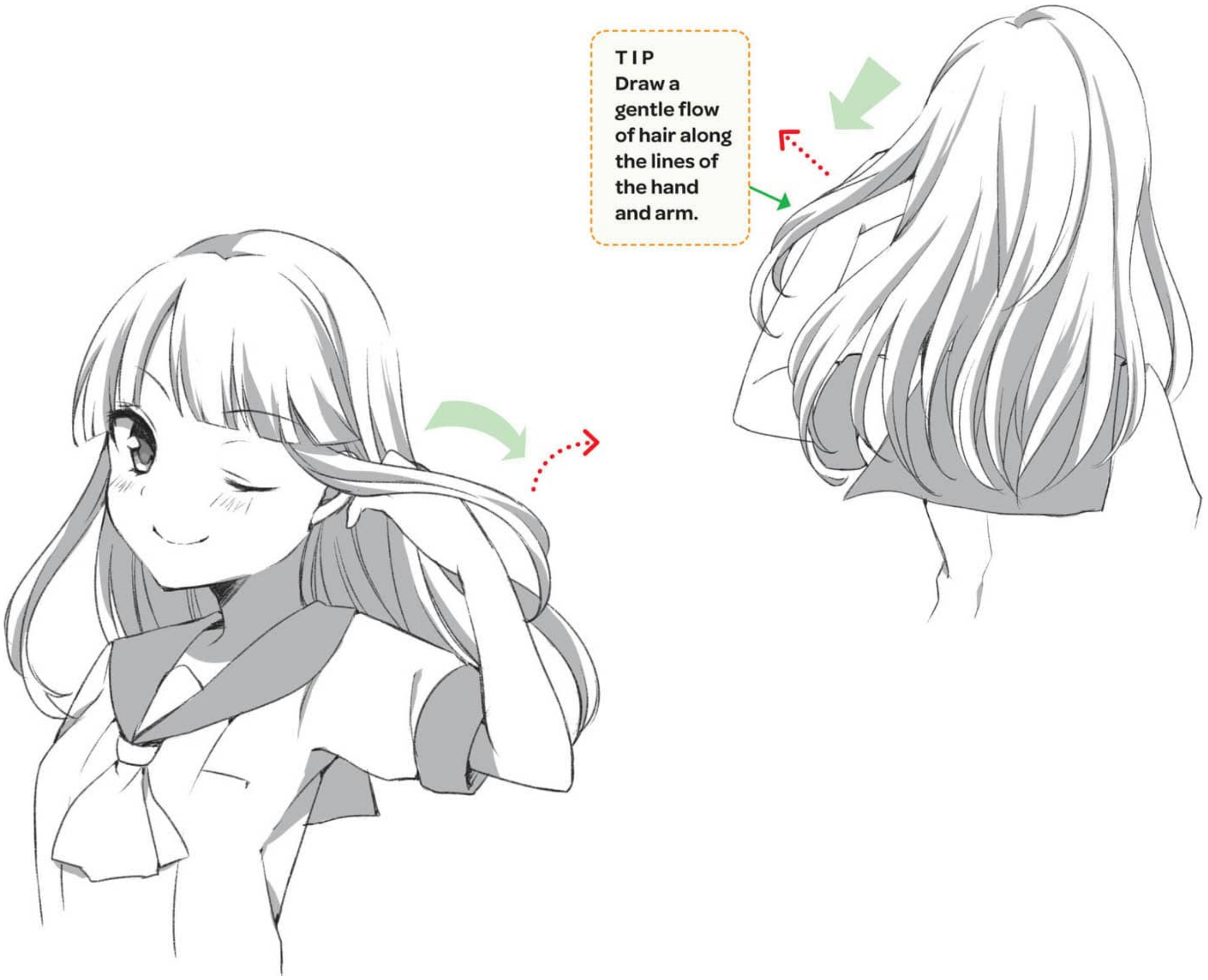




With very long, straight hair, the section of hair that is tucked behind the ear will drape like fabric. Draw the hair flowing toward the ear, then sagging before going up and over the ear.

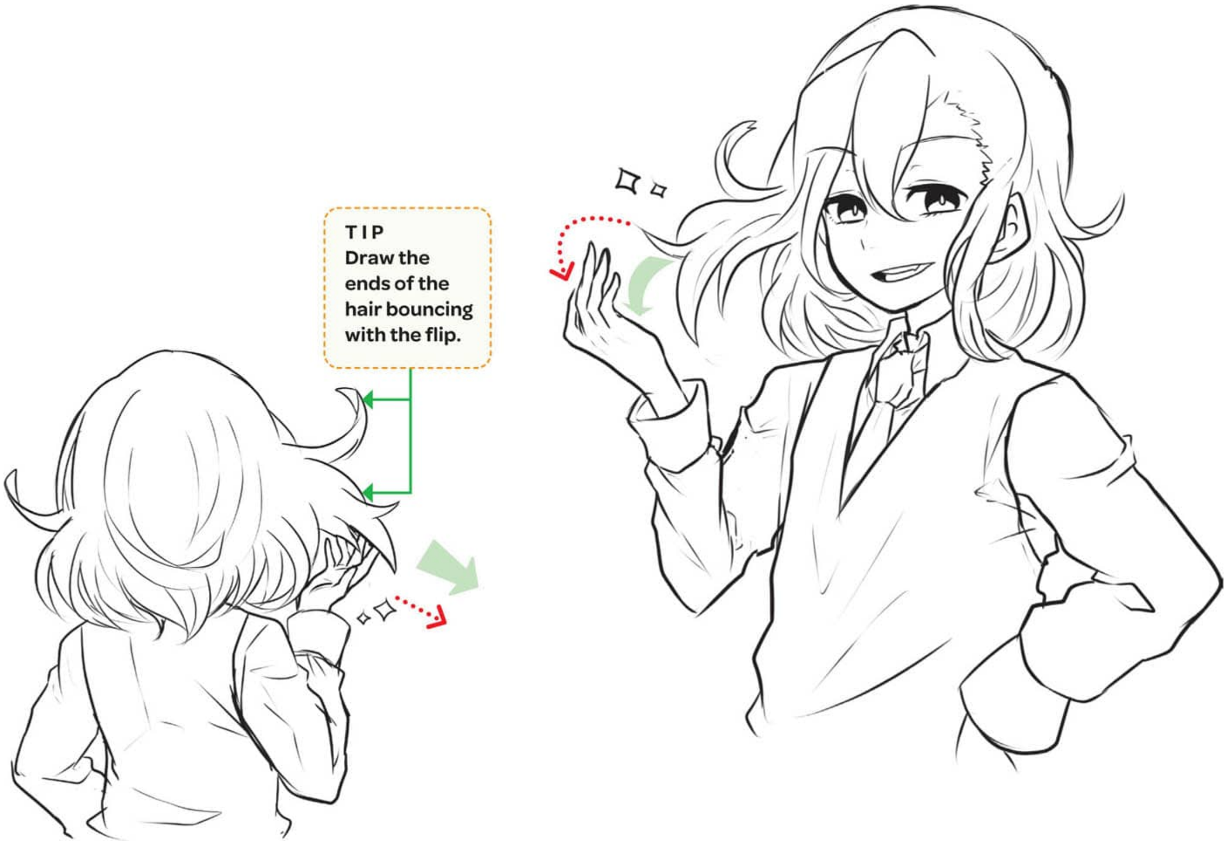
Flipping Hair

The action of flipping hair back and away from the face or over the shoulder contains several elements to be aware of: the flow of hair toward the hand, the section being moved, and the position of the ends of the hair.



TIP
Draw a gentle flow of hair along the lines of the hand and arm.

When flipping a long section of side bangs, the hair is lifted up by the back of the hand and the ends flip to the back.

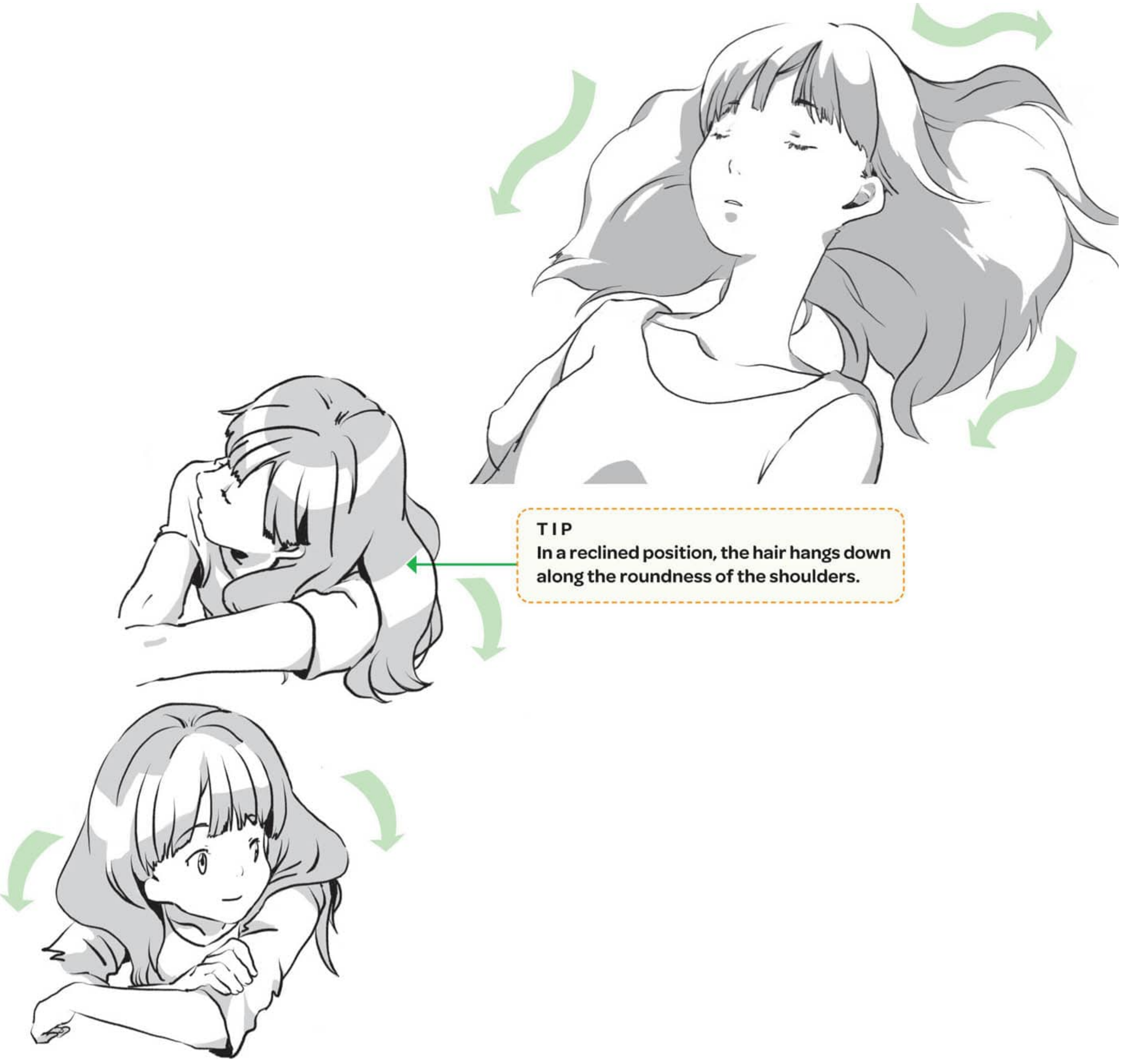


TIP
Draw the ends of the hair bouncing with the flip.

This character is confidently flipping the ends of a small section of hair. The hand flipping through the hair isn’t touching it, which means the action has already taken place. So, the hair is drawn starting to fall back into place.

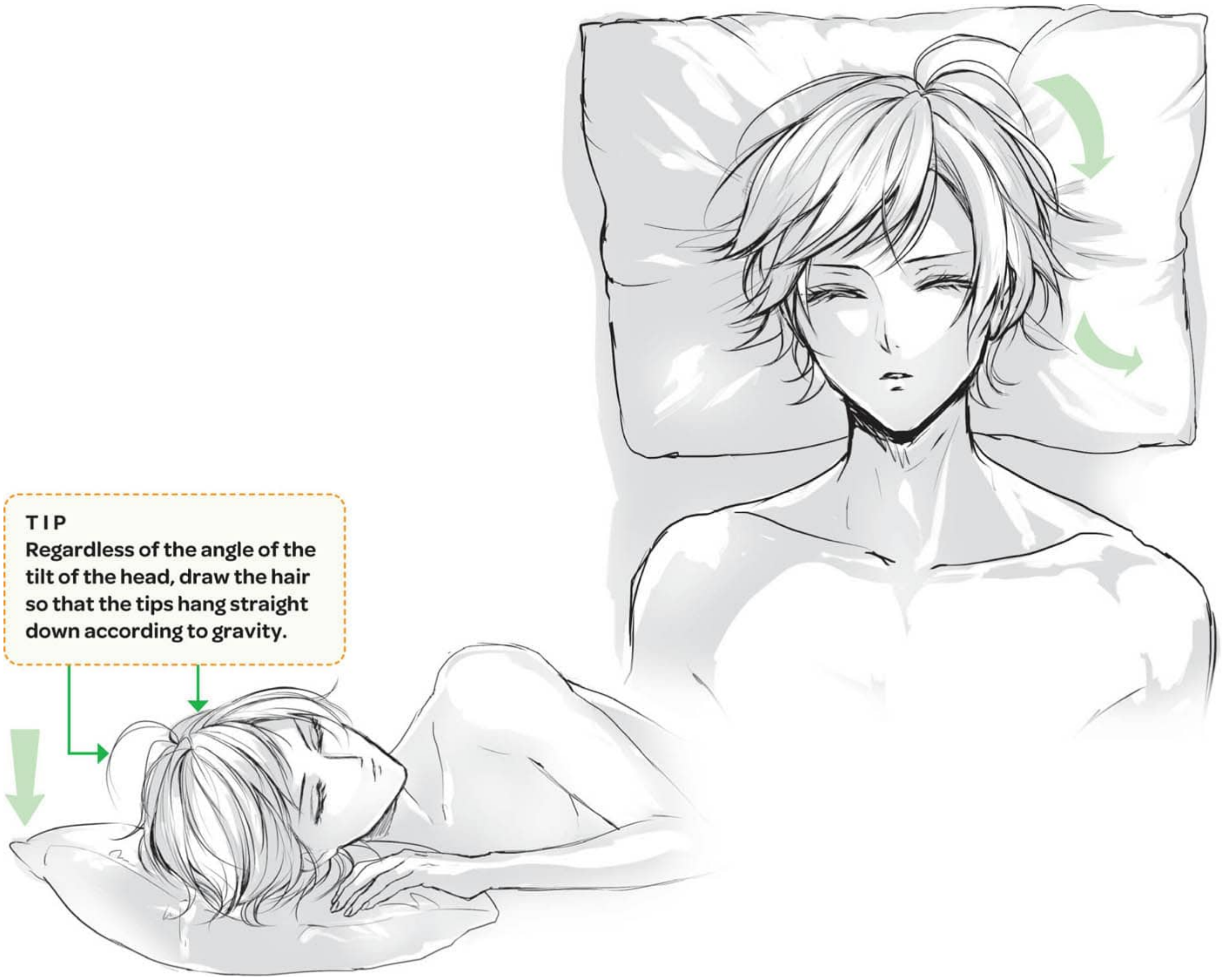
Lying Down

When a person is lying down, their head usually rests against a bed or pillow, which influences the shape of the hair.



TIP
In a reclined position, the hair hangs down along the roundness of the shoulders.

Long hair on the back of the head will spread out from side to side when lying down on the back. The shape of the bangs does not change much because they are supported by the forehead.

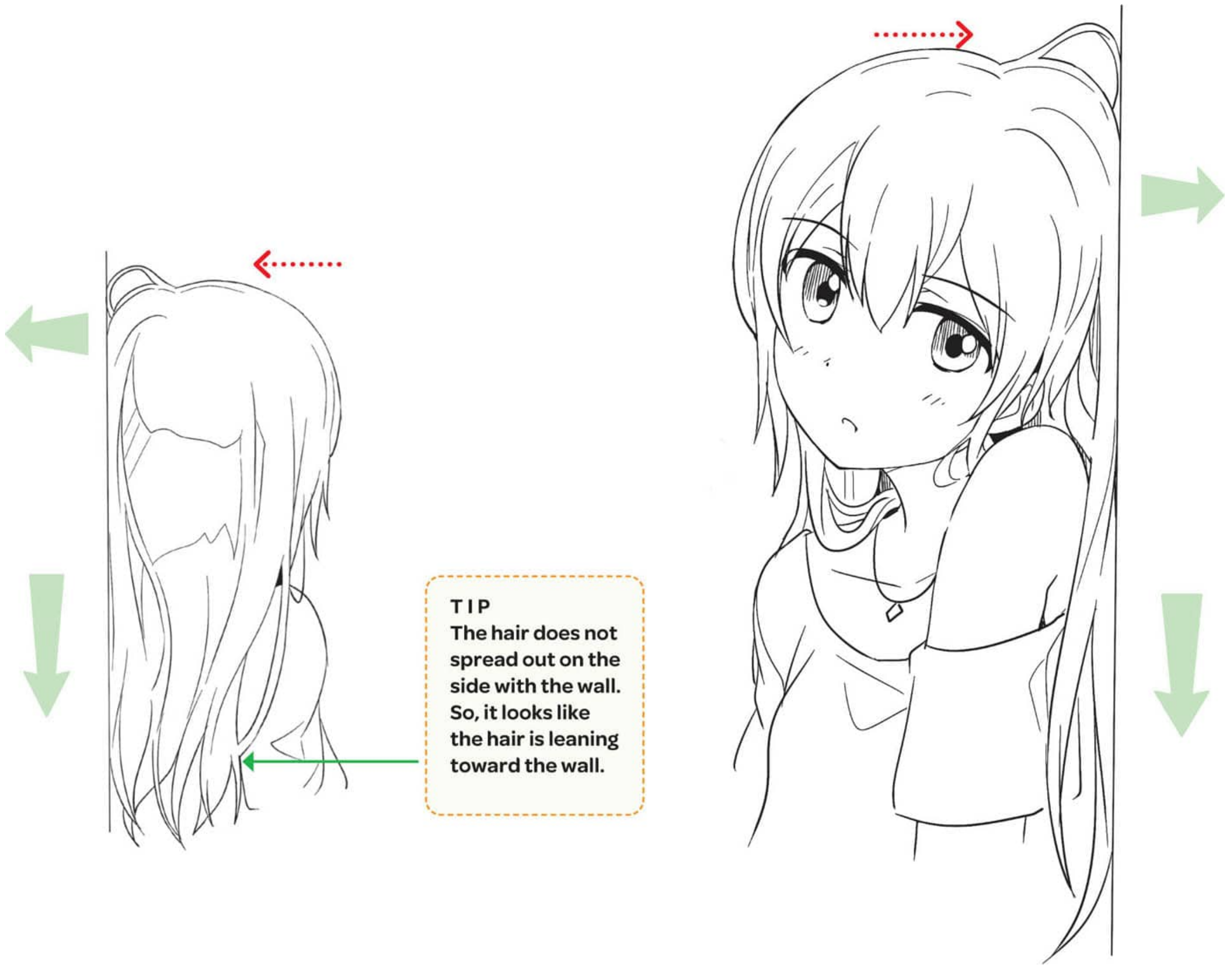


TIP
Regardless of the angle of the tilt of the head, draw the hair so that the tips hang straight down according to gravity.

For short hairstyles, the ends of the hair are affected more when lying down. Draw some thin, loose hairs on the top, sides, and back of the head, and draw the hair spreading lightly to suggest that the person is sleeping.

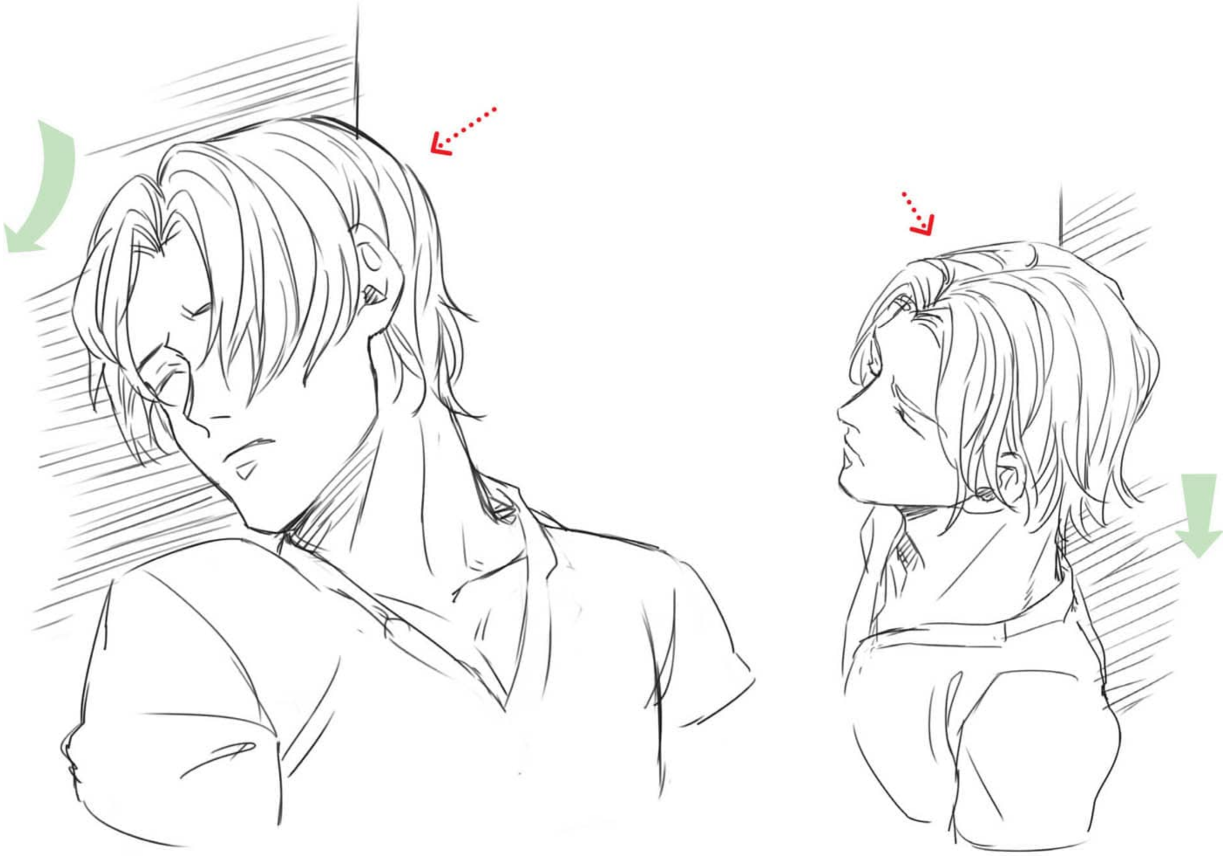
Leaning Against a Wall

When leaning against a wall, the hair that comes in contact with the wall is pushed up. The bangs and side sections of hair will hang down in the direction the head is tilted.



TIP
The hair does not spread out on the side with the wall. So, it looks like the hair is leaning toward the wall.

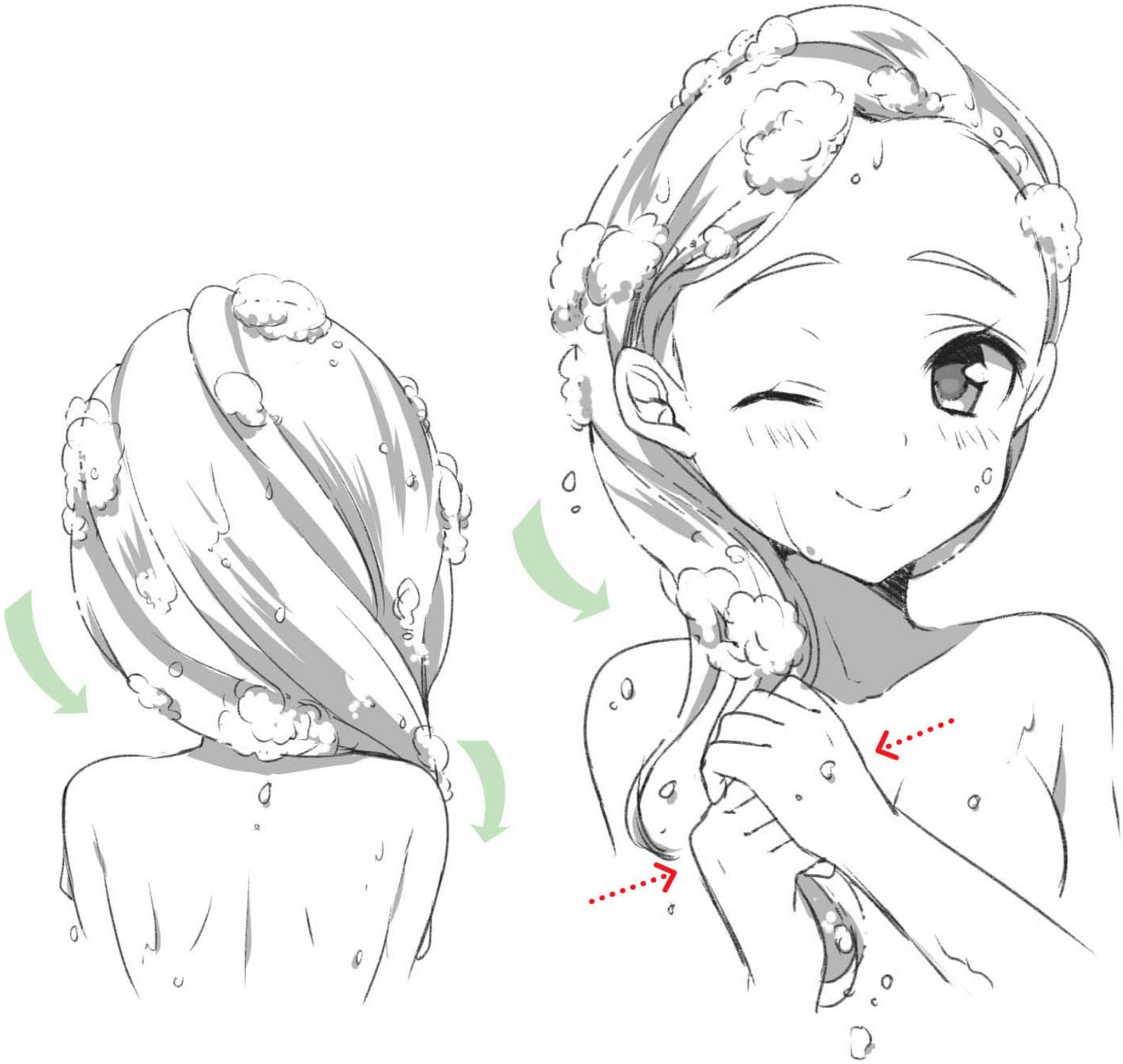
Since the back of the head is against the wall, the back hair is pushed up and thin, loose sections of hair curve upward.



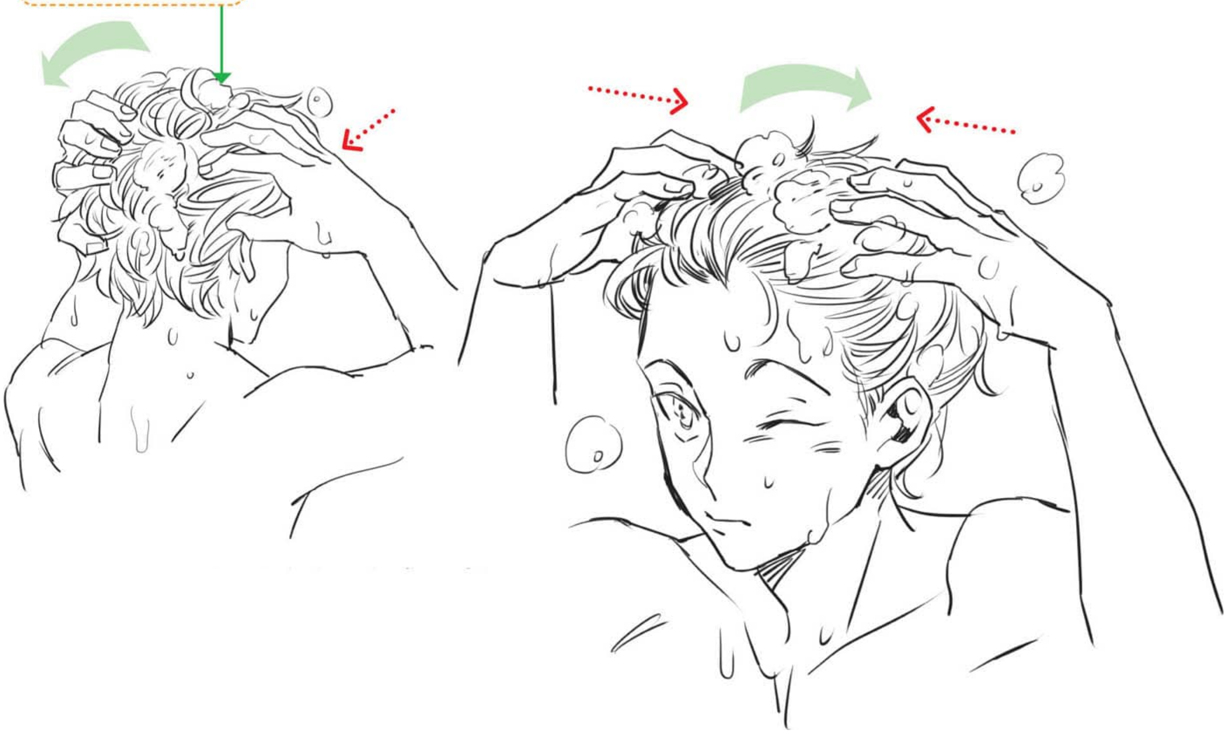
No matter what angle the head is tilted, draw the flow of hair so that the ends of the hair hang straight down with gravity.

Washing Hair

Since hair is wet when it is being washed, it will have a lot less volume than when it is dry. For women with long hair, gather the hair to one side, and for men with short hair, draw the hair flowing to the back of the head with the water.



Draw the hair all flowing from the back, over the shoulder, and to the front in one large section. The water will keep the hair from having loose sections flying away.

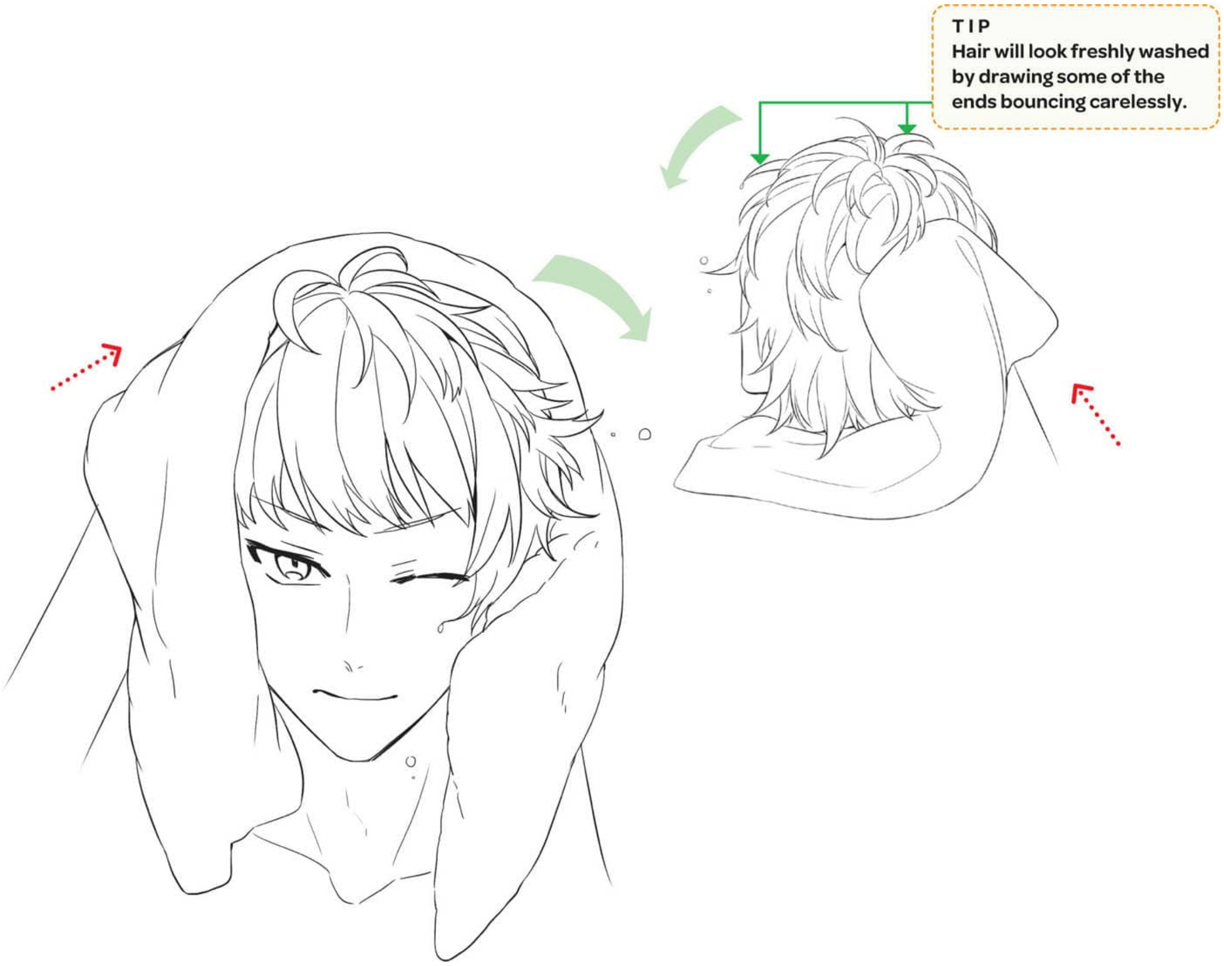


TIP
Add some fluffy sections of hair to show it being lifted by soapy bubbles of shampoo.

For short hair, draw the flow of the bangs and the side sections of hair toward the back. Be sure to draw the fingers and hands covered in water as well.

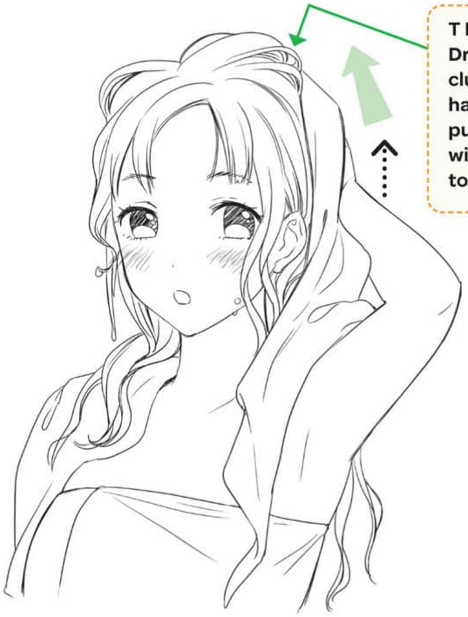
Towel Drying Hair

After washing hair, it is heavy with water. To give your character a more realistic personality, you can draw them drying their hair with a towel. The towel will cause the hair to be messy before it is styled into its usual shape.

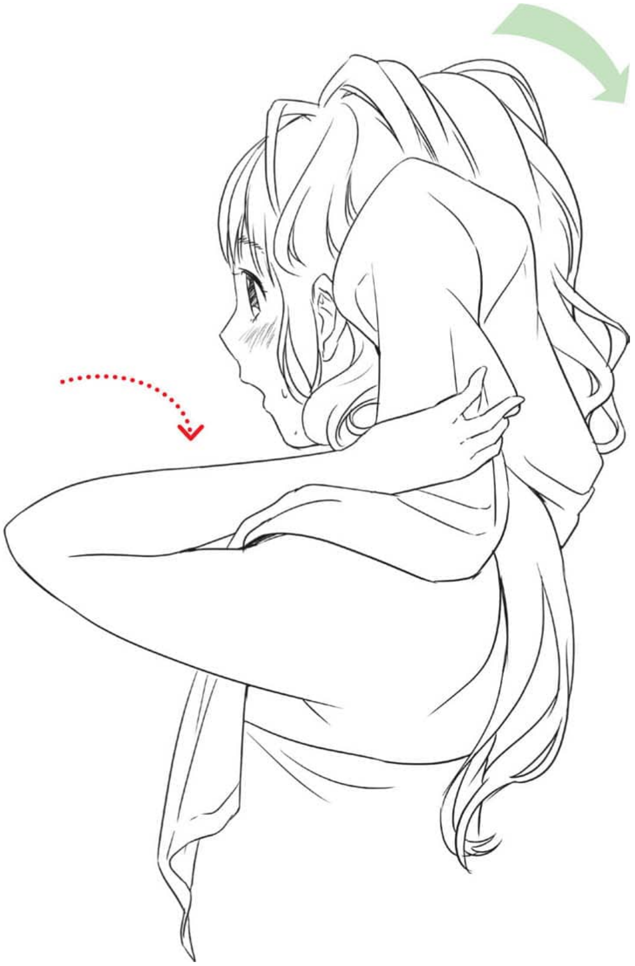


TIP
Hair will look freshly washed by drawing some of the ends bouncing carelessly.

Hide the hair on one side of the head with the towel, and show the movement of the hair on the opposite side by drawing the side hair bouncing with the back-and-forth motion of drying.



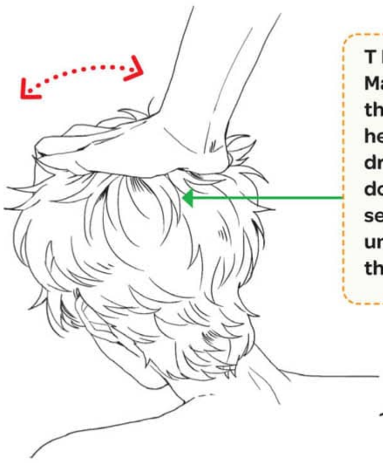
TIP
Draw clumps of hair being pushed up with the towel.



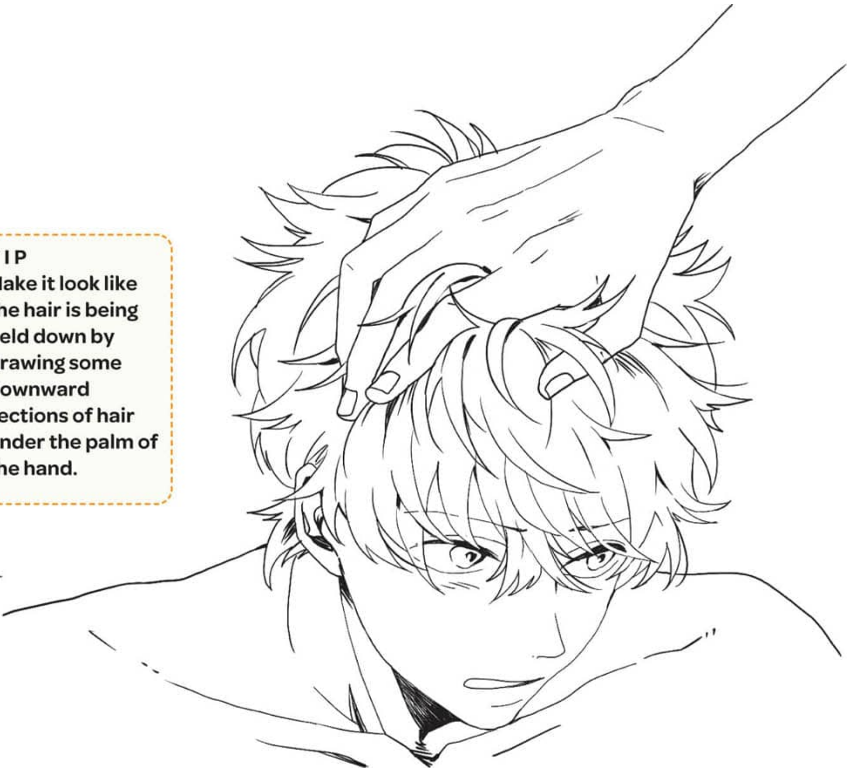
When drying a long section of hair with a towel, the towel is pressed against the head and moved up, down, back, and forth. This motion causes the hair to clump and separate into sections that move with the towel.

Patting the Head

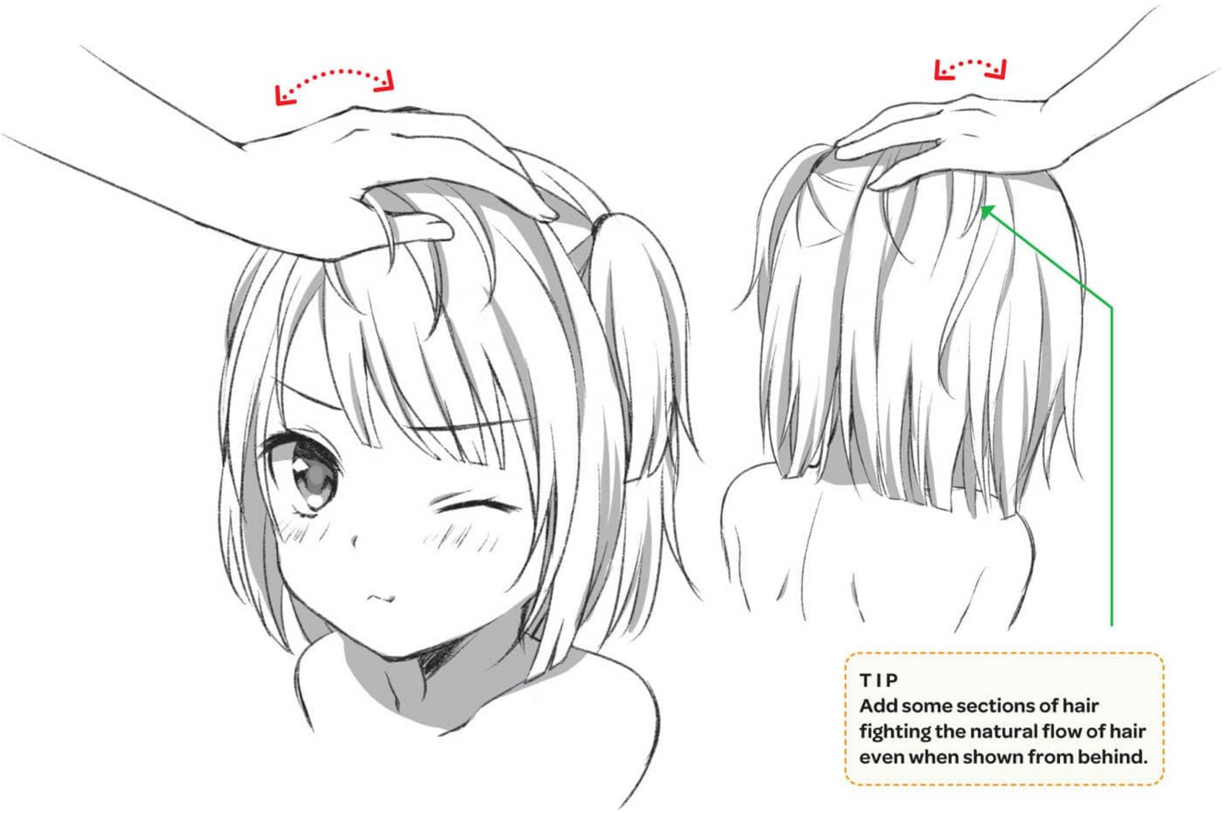
When a character is patted on the head, the hair is ruffled when moved from side to side. Remember to draw some bundles of hair popping out between the fingers or along the palm to show the hair is tousled.



TIP
Make it look like the hair is being held down by drawing some downward sections of hair under the palm of the hand.



You can show that the other person is patting the head aggressively by drawing hair that sticks out wildly, such as the ends of the hair sticking out from the gaps between the fingers and covering the thumb.

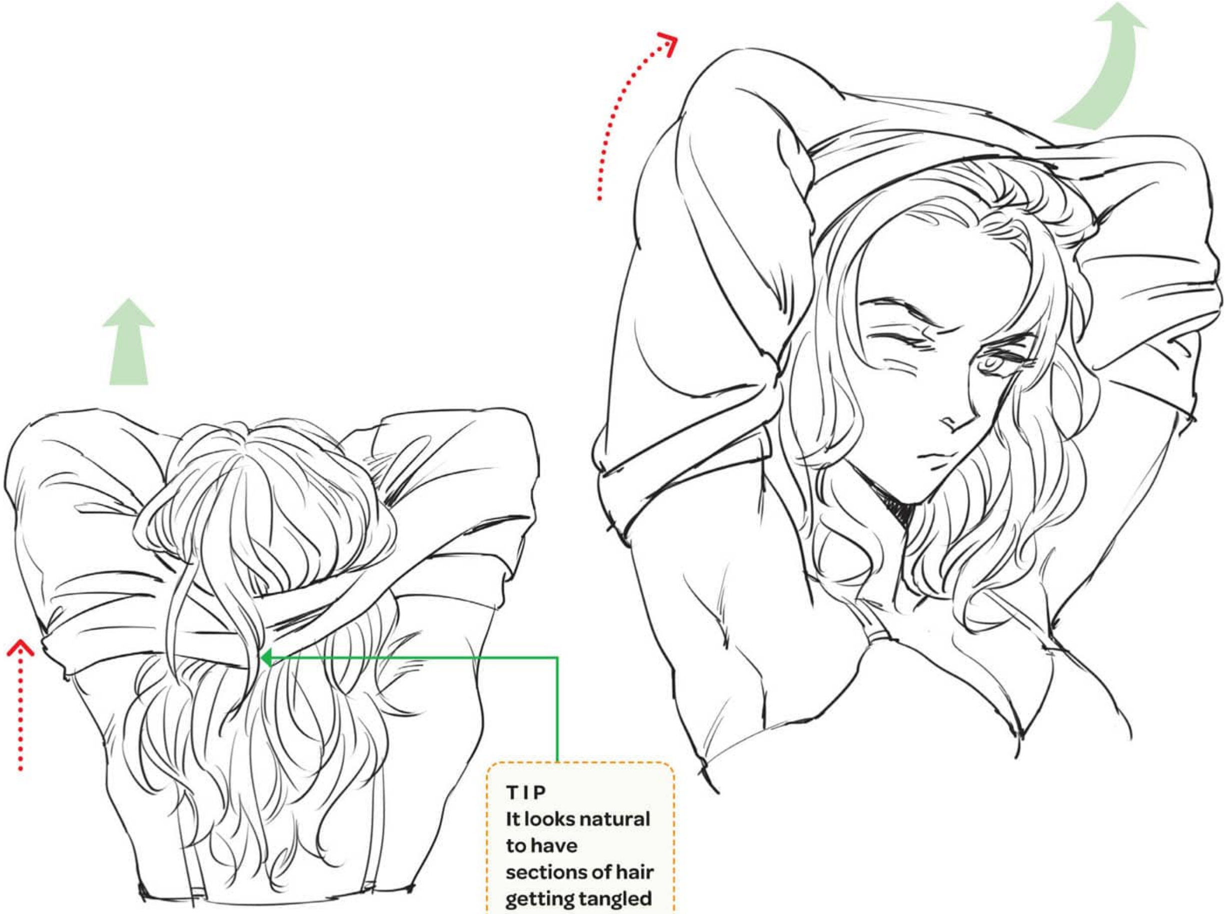


TIP
Add some sections of hair fighting the natural flow of hair even when shown from behind.

Draw a few bundles of hair that do not follow the natural flow of the hair on the top of the head to show the hair being messed up.

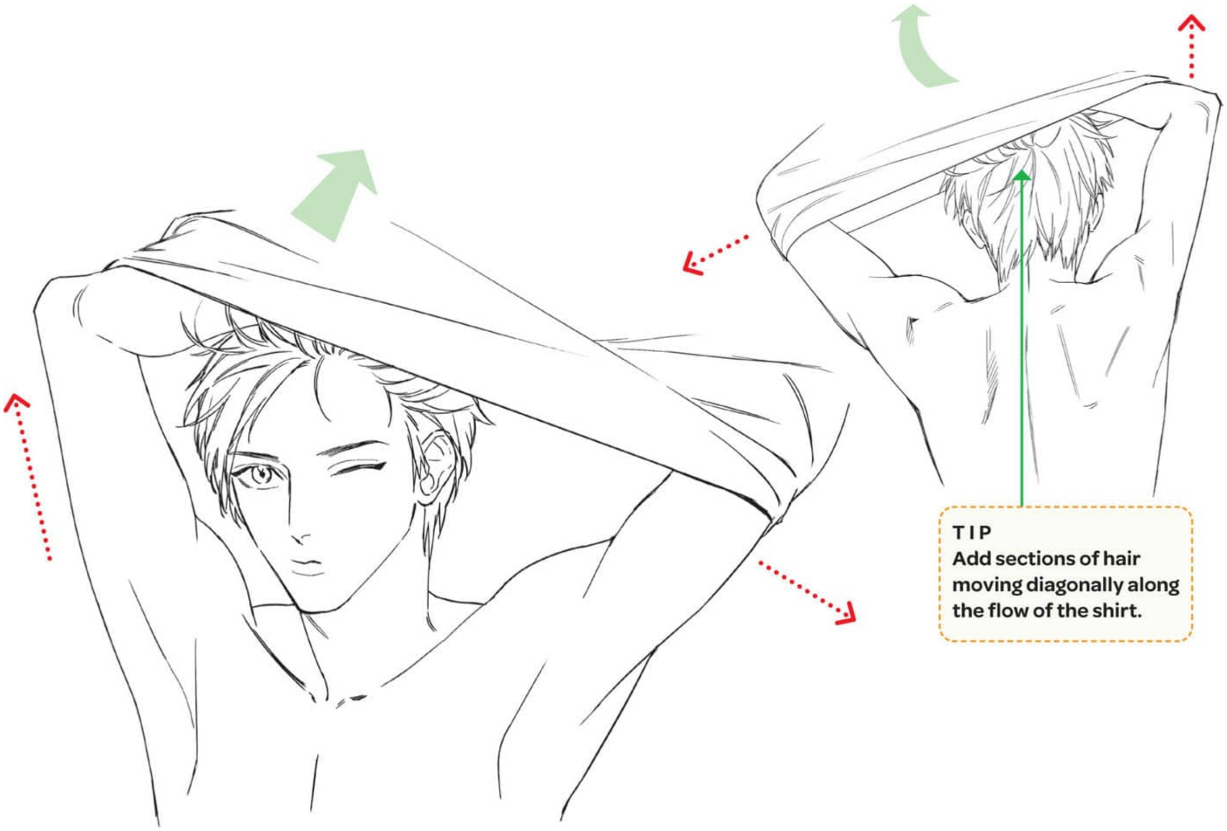
Undressing

When taking off clothes such as t-shirts, the hair will likely come in contact with the clothing, which will cause the hairstyle to be disrupted and changed.



TIP
It looks natural to have sections of hair getting tangled in the folds of the shirt as it passes over the head.

With long hair, sections of hair will separate from the larger body of hair and become tangled in the garment.

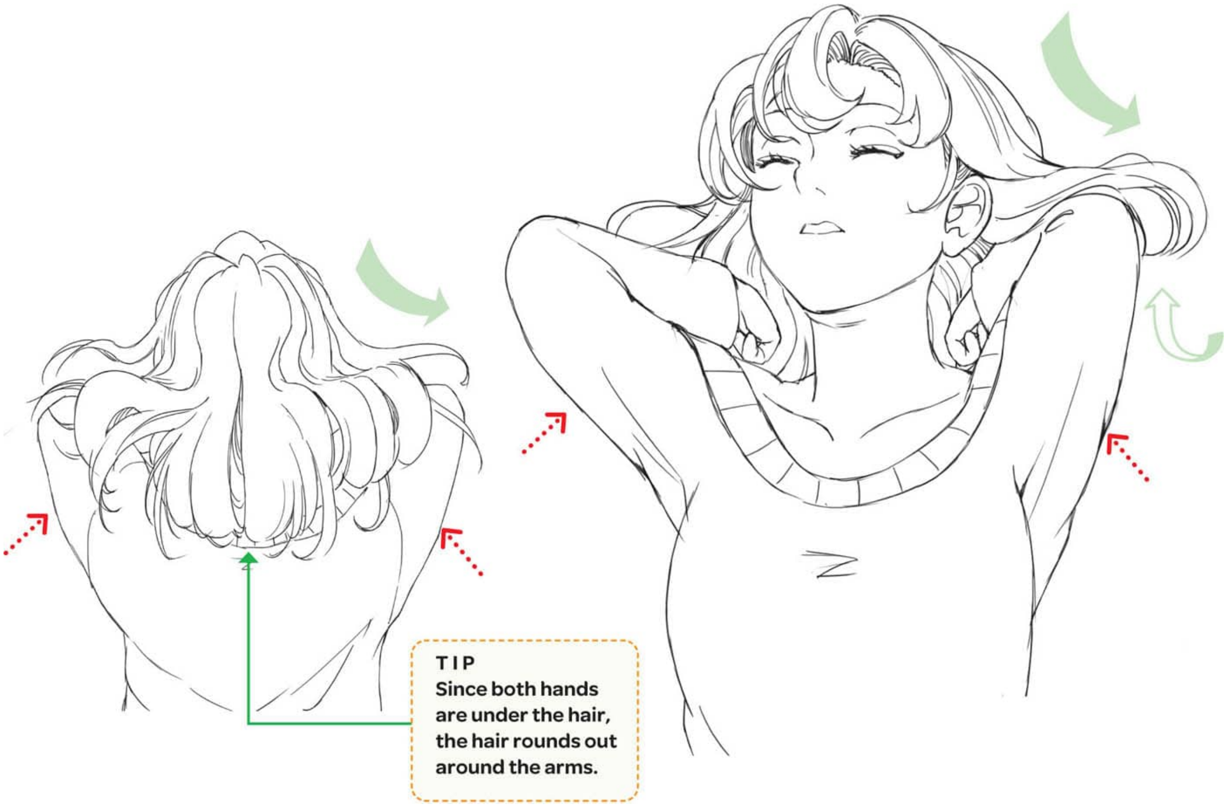


TIP
Add sections of hair moving diagonally along the flow of the shirt.

With short hair, the bangs and sections of the back will be affected most. The key to making the drawing realistic is to leave some sections of hair natural, while only a few of the other sections move in the direction of the clothing.

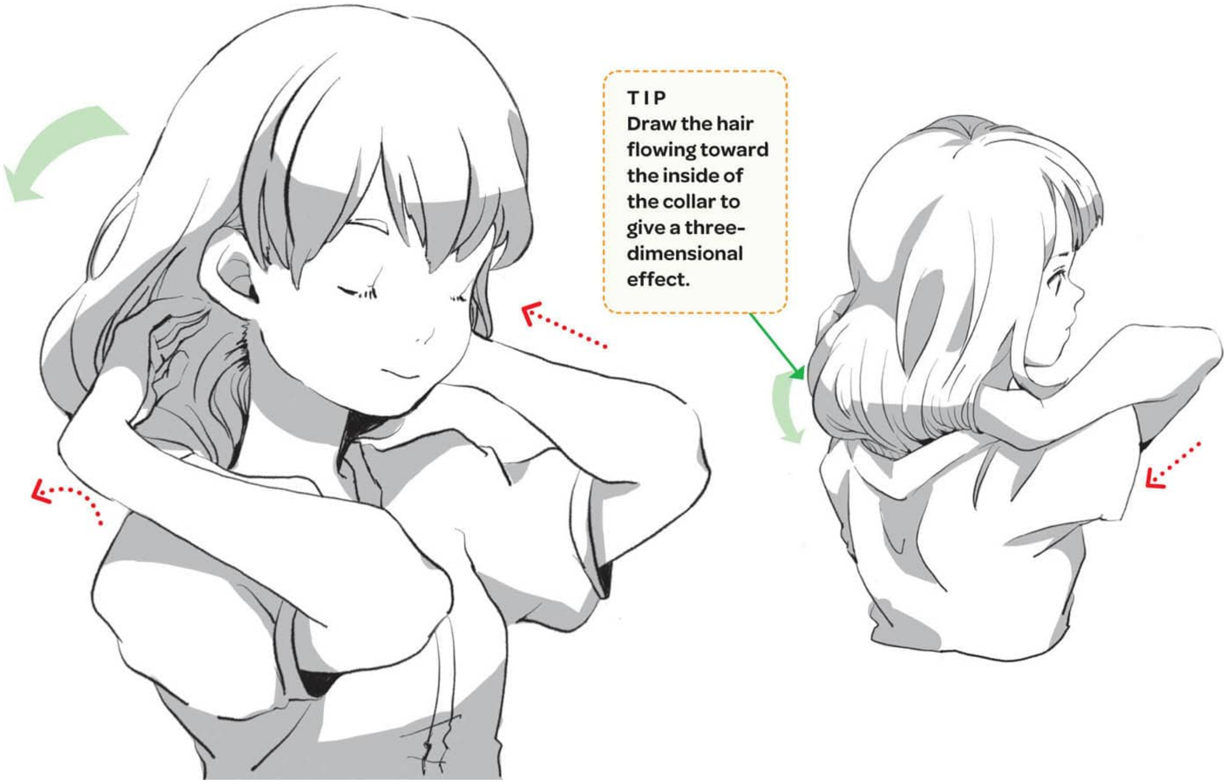
Getting Dressed

When getting dressed, such as putting on a jacket or a sweater, long hair will be caught inside the garment. The hands need to pull the hair out from inside the clothes.



TIP
Since both hands are under the hair, the hair rounds out around the arms.

When placing the hands under the hair at the back of the head, the elbows will be raised high. As the arms lift to pull the hair up, the hair will arch and spread out as it is lifted.



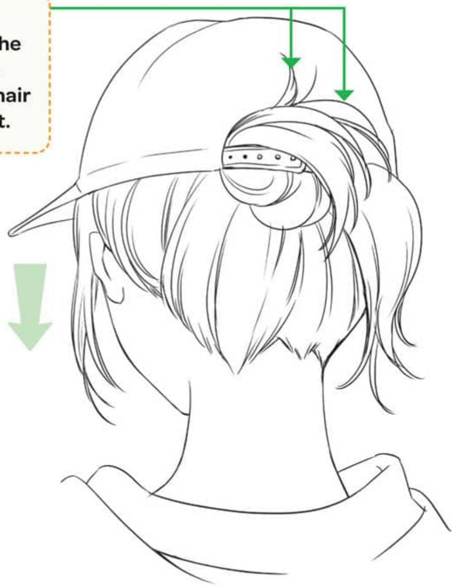
TIP
Draw the hair flowing toward the inside of the collar to give a three-dimensional effect.

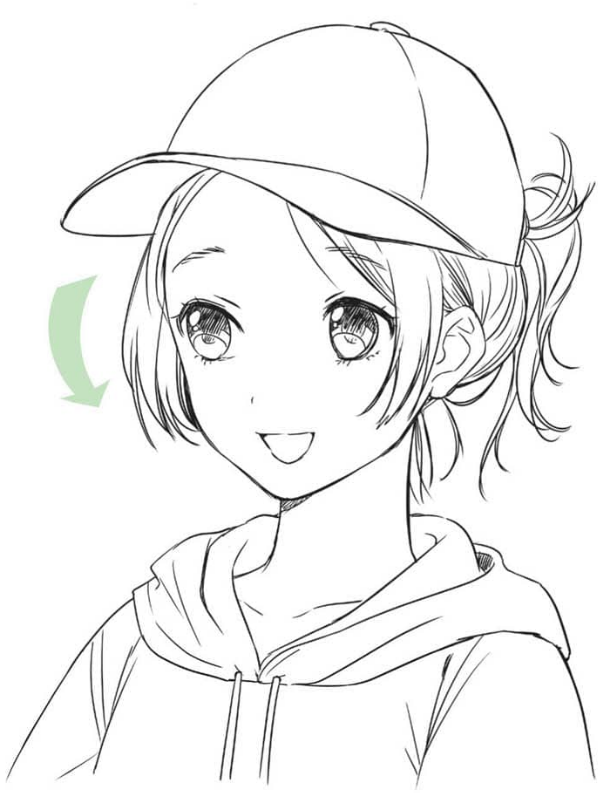
At the moment of pulling the hair up, the fingertips are squeezed together to make it easier to push. The hair is pushed by the hands and the lower hair spreads on both sides.

Wearing a Hat

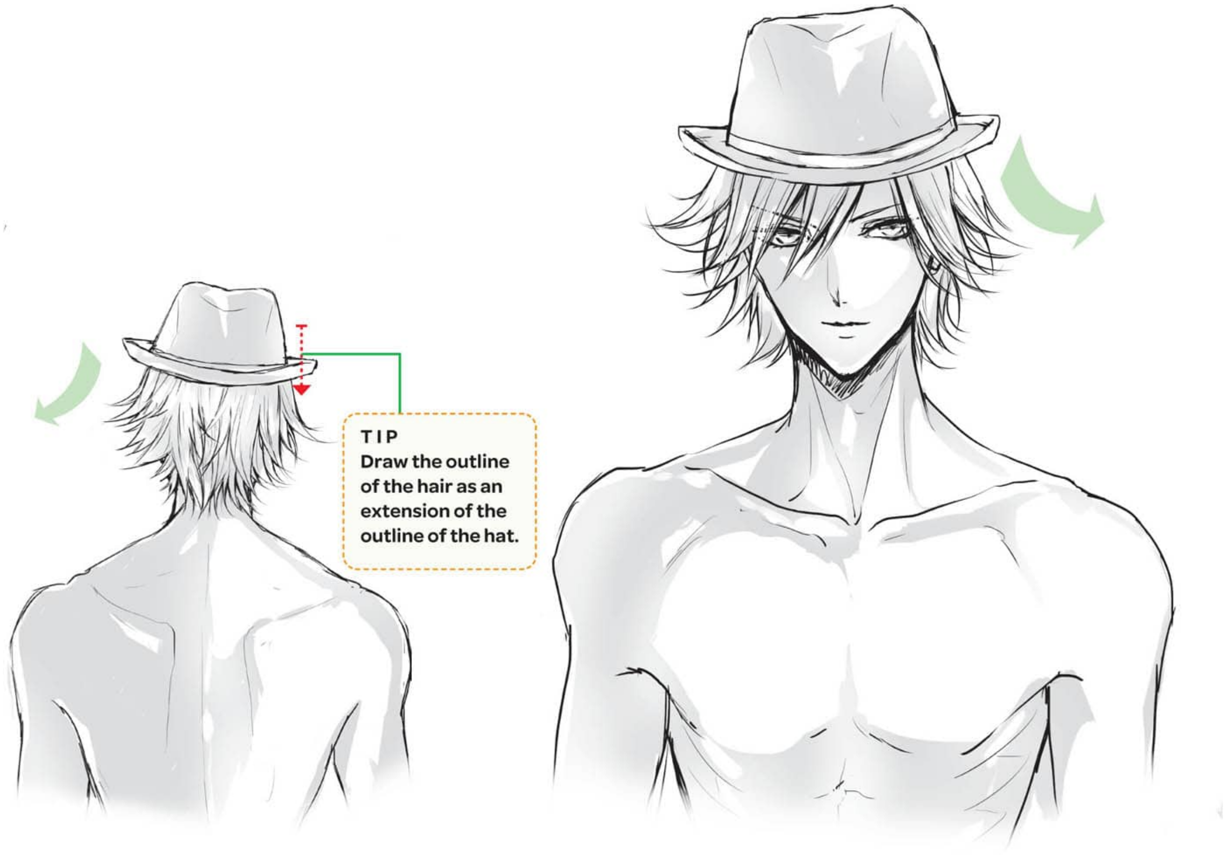
How far down on the head you draw your character’s hat will impact their hair. The further down on the head, the more the hair is pressed down and the tips of the hair curl outward.

TIP
Draw the ends of the hair curling to give movement to the hair tucked into the hat.





When wearing a hat with long hair tucked up inside, the bottom half of the hair will plump out as it curls up into the hat. The ends of the hair curl out and the bangs are held tight to the face.

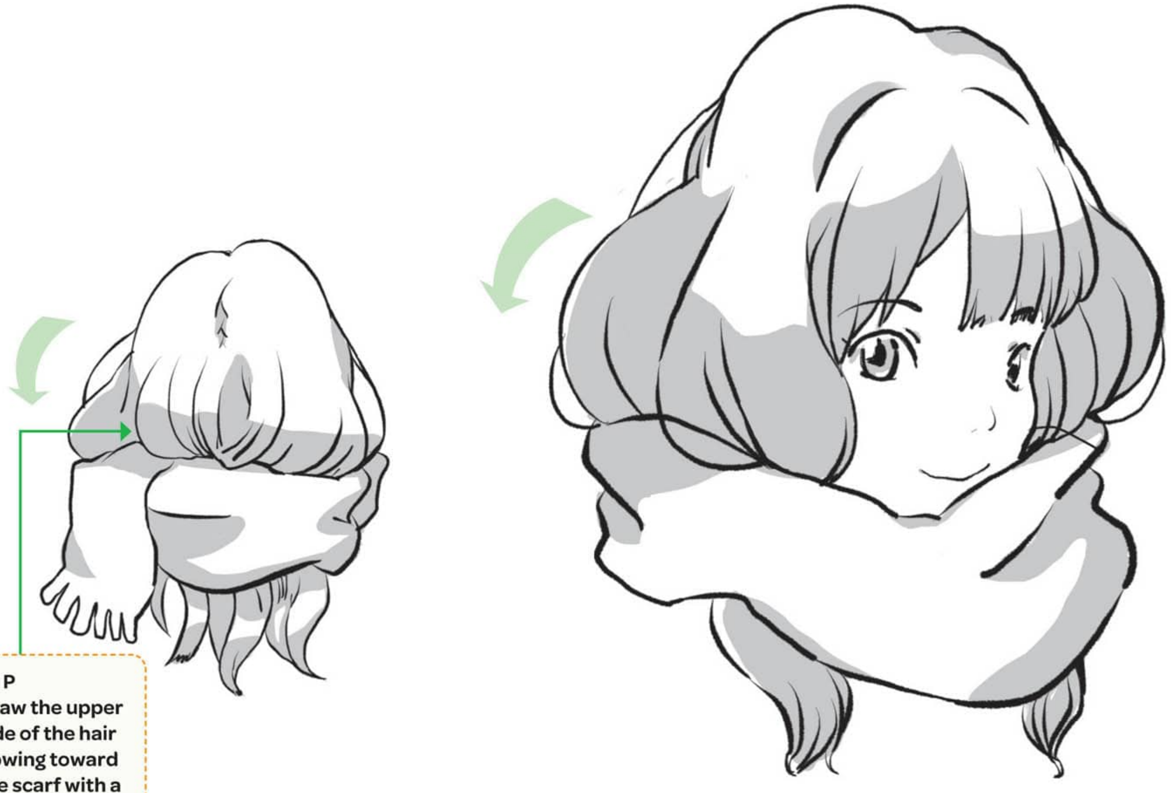


TIP
Draw the outline of the hair as an extension of the outline of the hat.

A hat with a brim all the way around is drawn so that it rests on the head. The hair flows down and away from the hat.

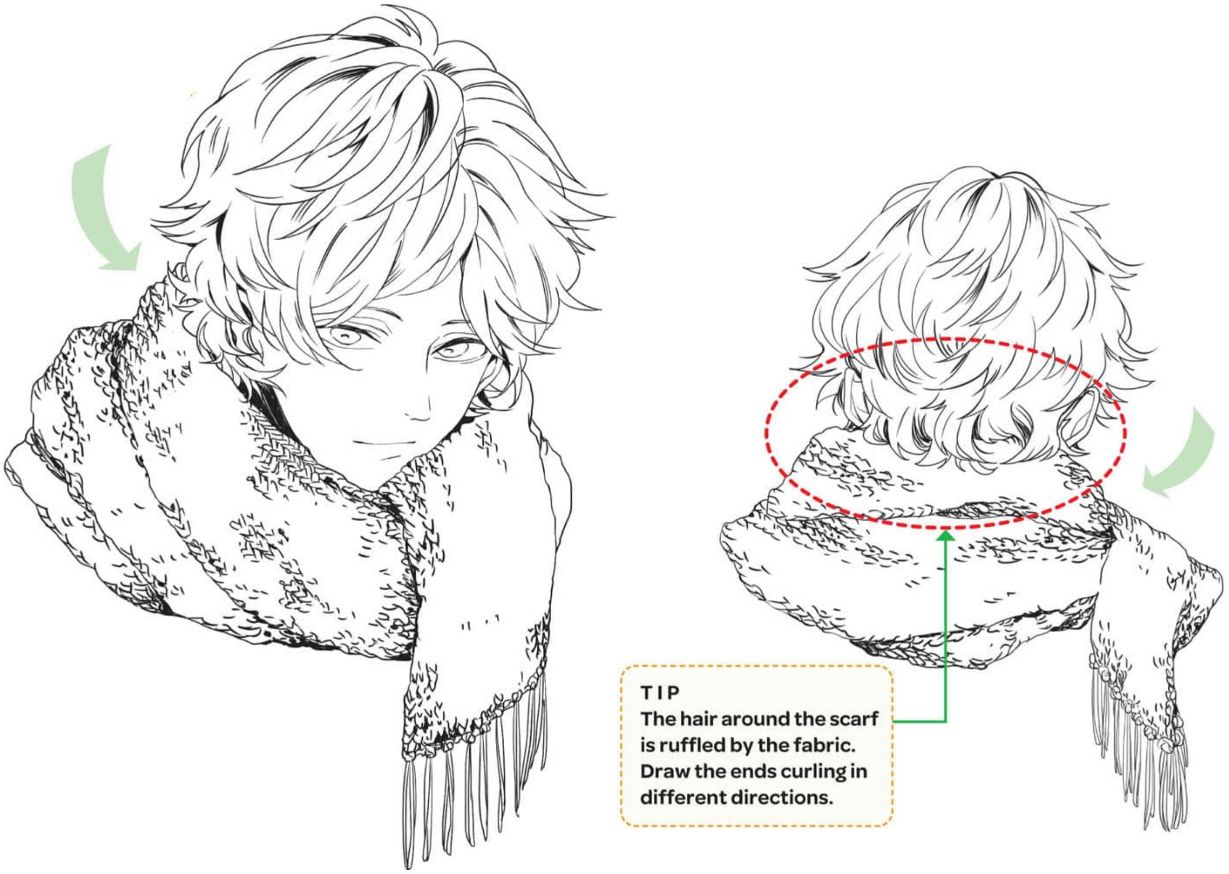
Wearing a Scarf

With a scarf wrapped around the neck, both long and short hairstyles will be affected by the fabric. Long hair will bubble out around the top of the scarf, and short hair will get tousled at the ends.



TIP
Draw the upper side of the hair flowing toward the scarf with a curve where the hair meets the fabric.

When long hair is wrapped in a scarf, the top half will plump out and appear to have more volume as it's lifted by the fabric.



TIP
The hair around the scarf is ruffled by the fabric. Draw the ends curling in different directions.

For short hairstyles, the hair closest to the scarf is ruffled by the fabric. The rubbing of the cloth against the hair makes it curl up in different directions.

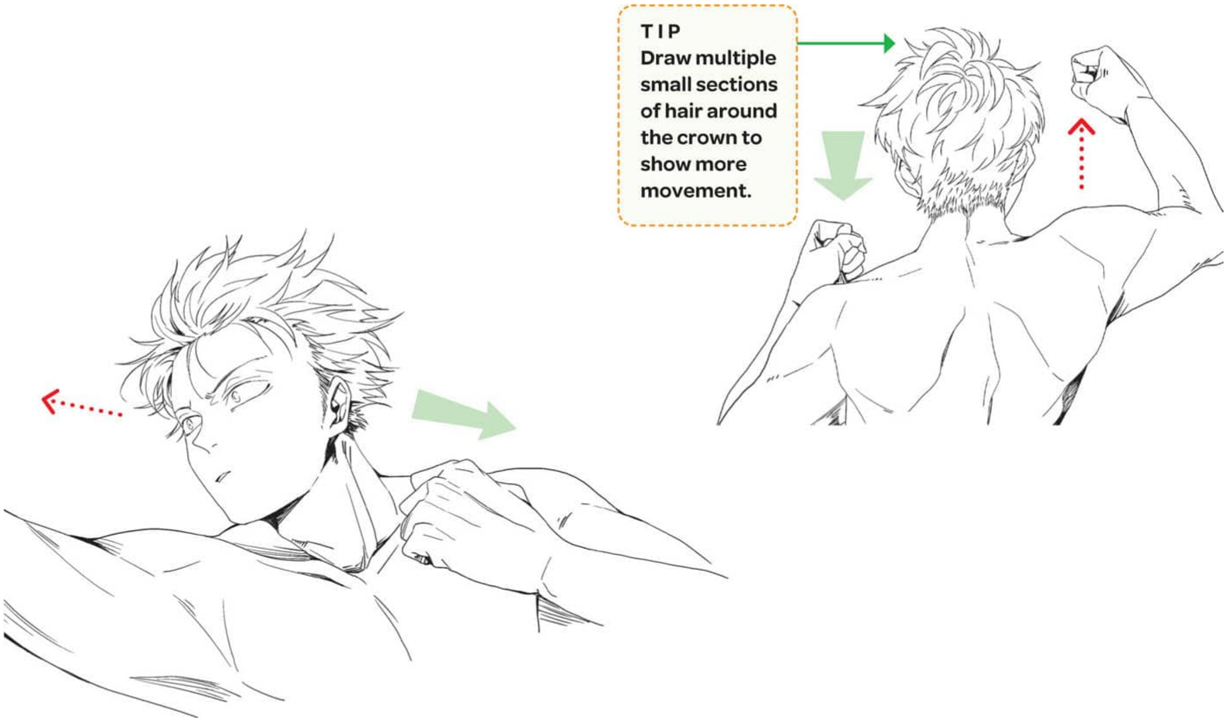
Battle Scene Hairstyles

In order to portray movement when attacking or being attacked by an opponent, it is important to draw the scene with a sense of energy, not only in the body but also in the hair. In this section, we look at different hairstyles during common battle scenarios.

⇠ **Body Movement** ⬅ **Hair Movement**

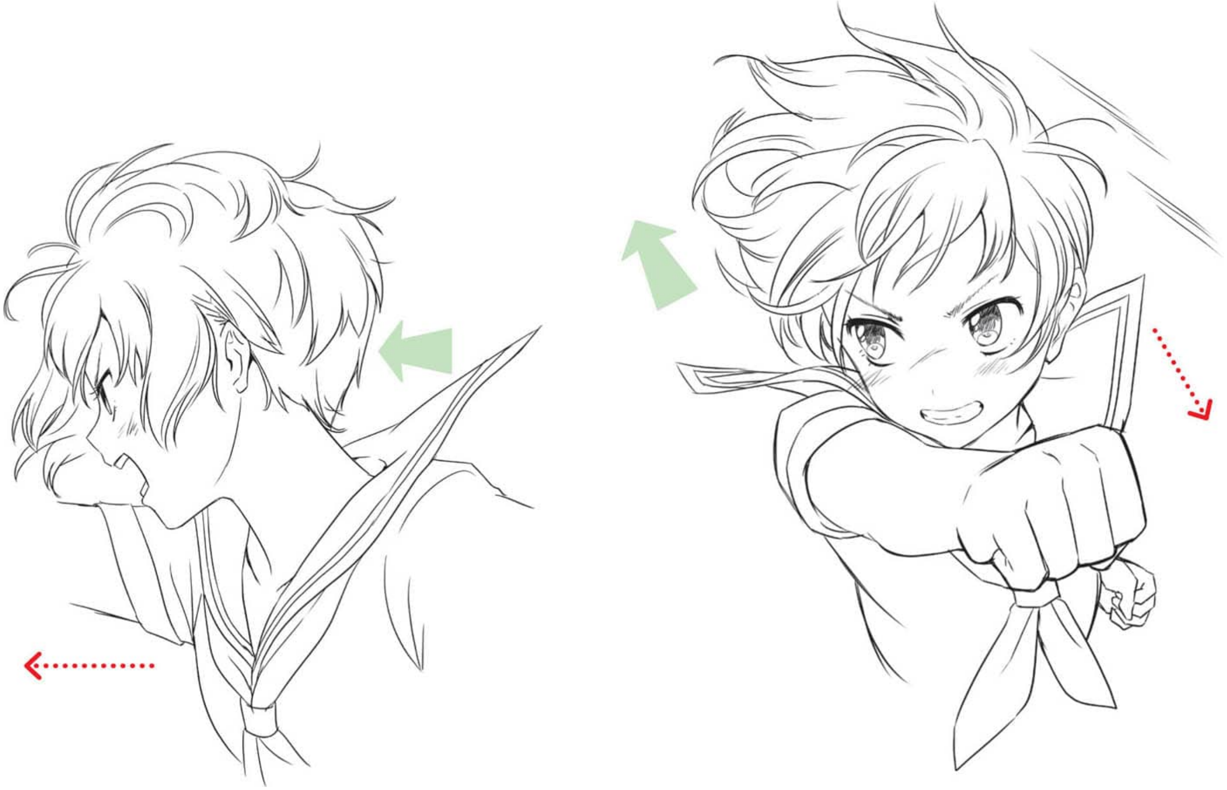
Hitting

When delivering a punch, the body leans forward and air resistance causes the hair to flow backward for a moment. Draw the hair in a similar way to when drawing windblown styles.



TIP
Draw multiple small sections of hair around the crown to show more movement.

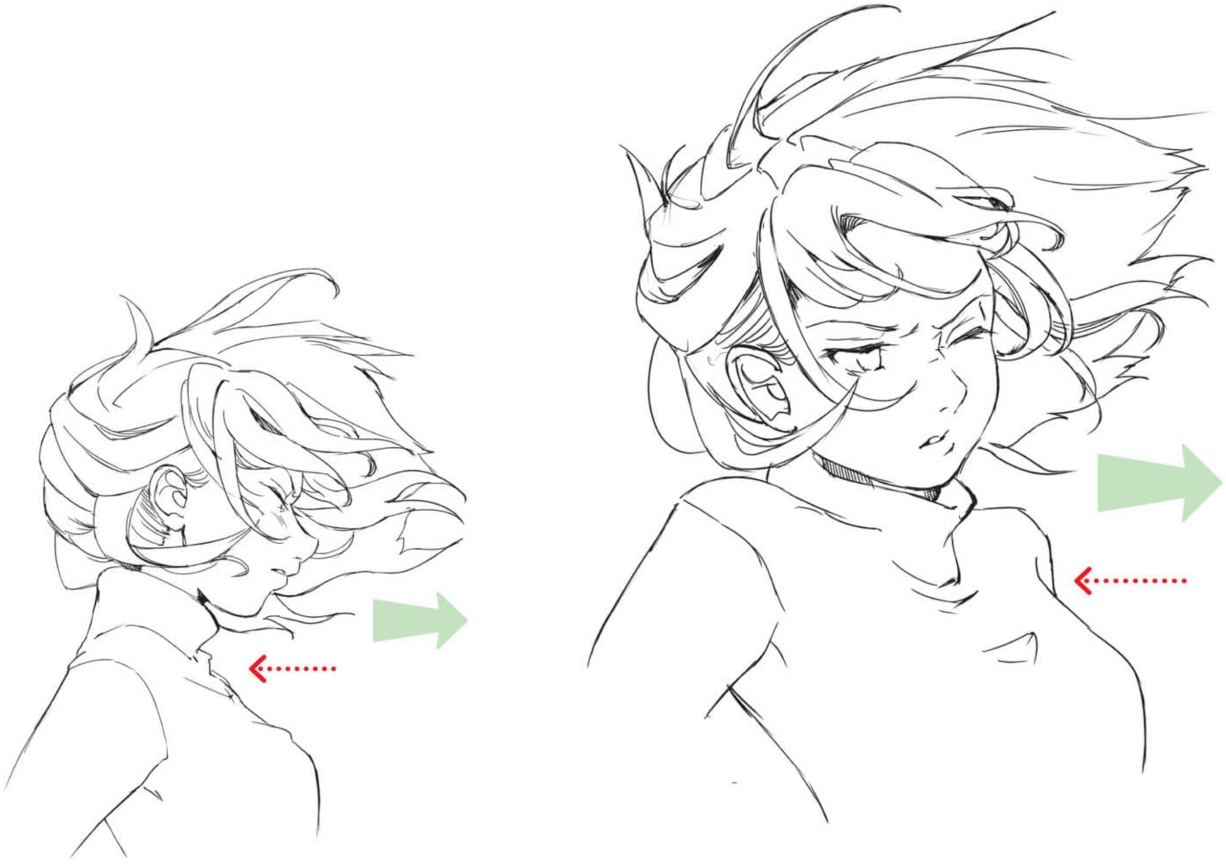
To show the movement of the body when hitting, draw the bangs blown backward and the ends on the side of the head bouncing outward away from the head.



When hitting, the line of sight is directed toward the target, but since the body is facing the front of the screen, the hair moves toward the back of the screen.

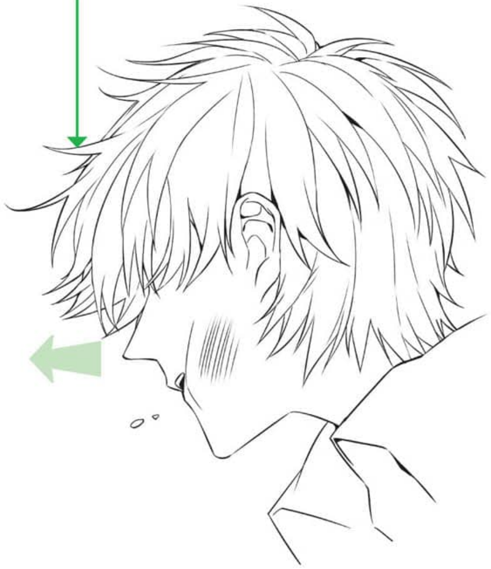
Being Attacked

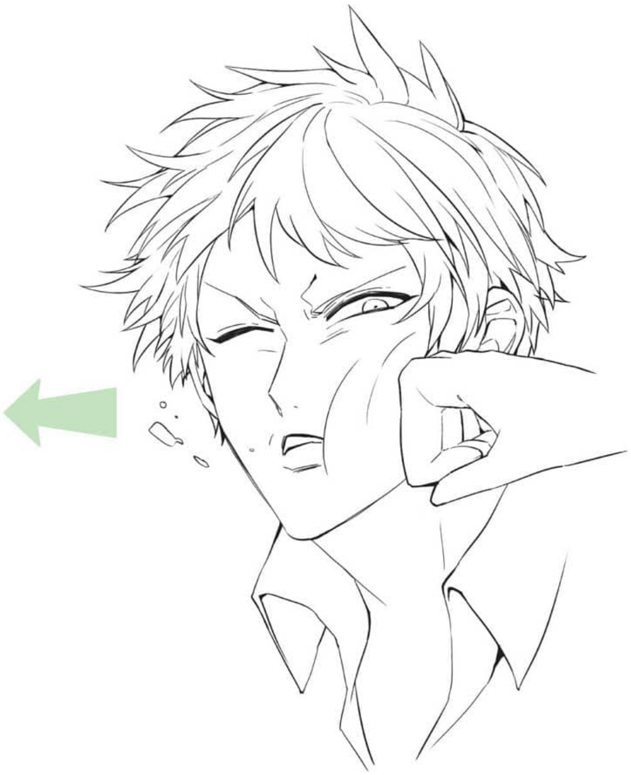
When a character is hit in an attack, the force moves the body backward and the hair will follow. The hair is drawn similarly to falling through the air, but the body is perpendicular to the ground.



By drawing the hair flowing toward the front of the body at a horizontal angle while the body leans backward, the character appears to be blown back by the force of a strong hit.

TIP
Draw the bangs and the hair on the top of the head as if they are curled upward to suggest the abrupt movement of being hit.

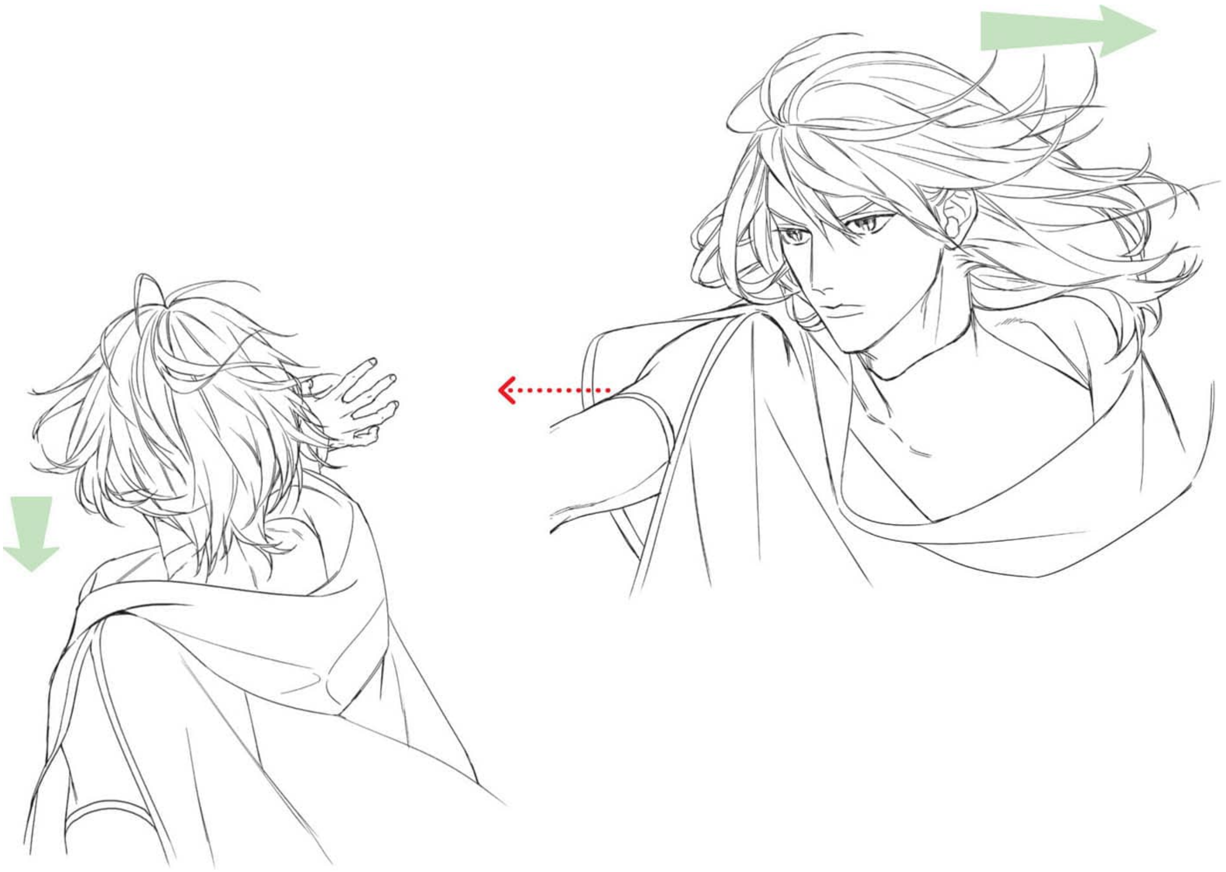




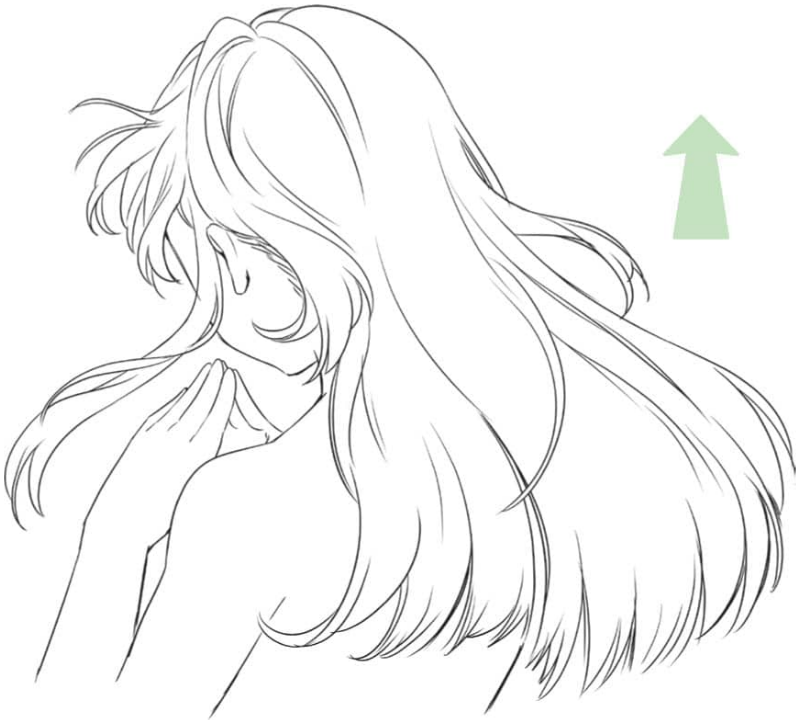
When the cheek is punched, you can suggest how powerful and painful the blow is by curling the ends of the hair on the opposite side of the hit.

Casting a Spell

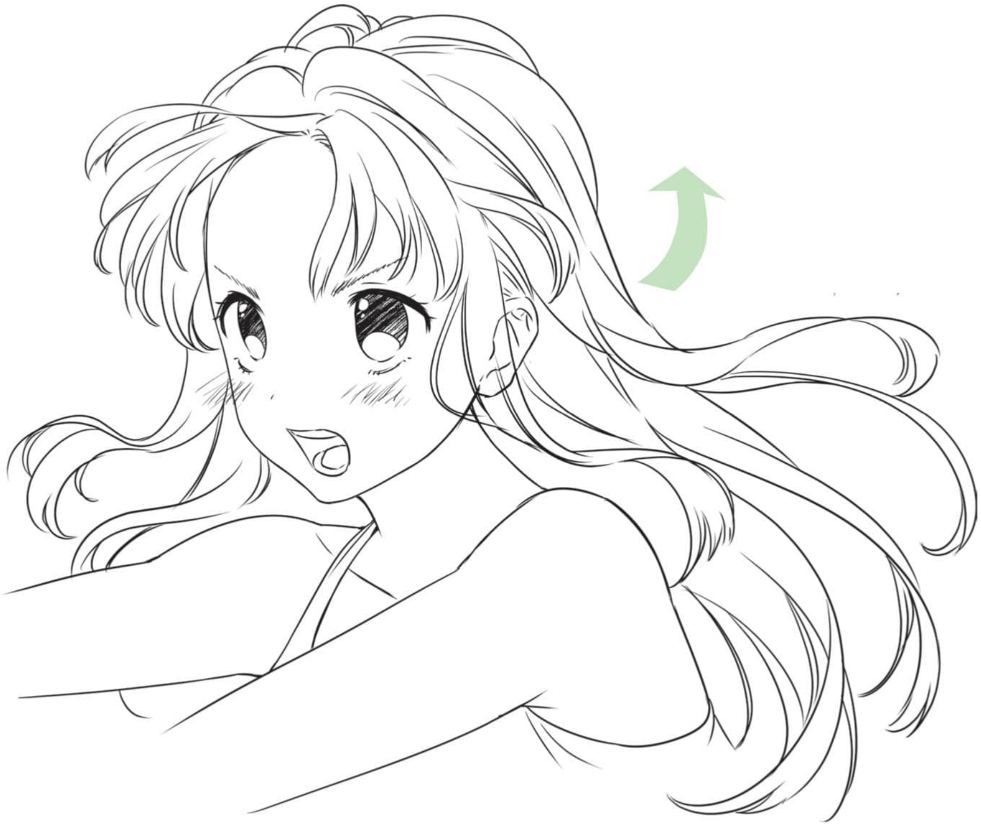
In a scene where magic is being used, the fluttering movement of hair and clothes are added to convey the strength of the magic. The stronger the movement of the hair, the more powerful the magic appears.



Imagine a strong wind blowing on the face, and how the entire head of hair is blown backward. Draw the bangs curled upward or back hair curled outward to illustrate the powerful intensity of the magic.



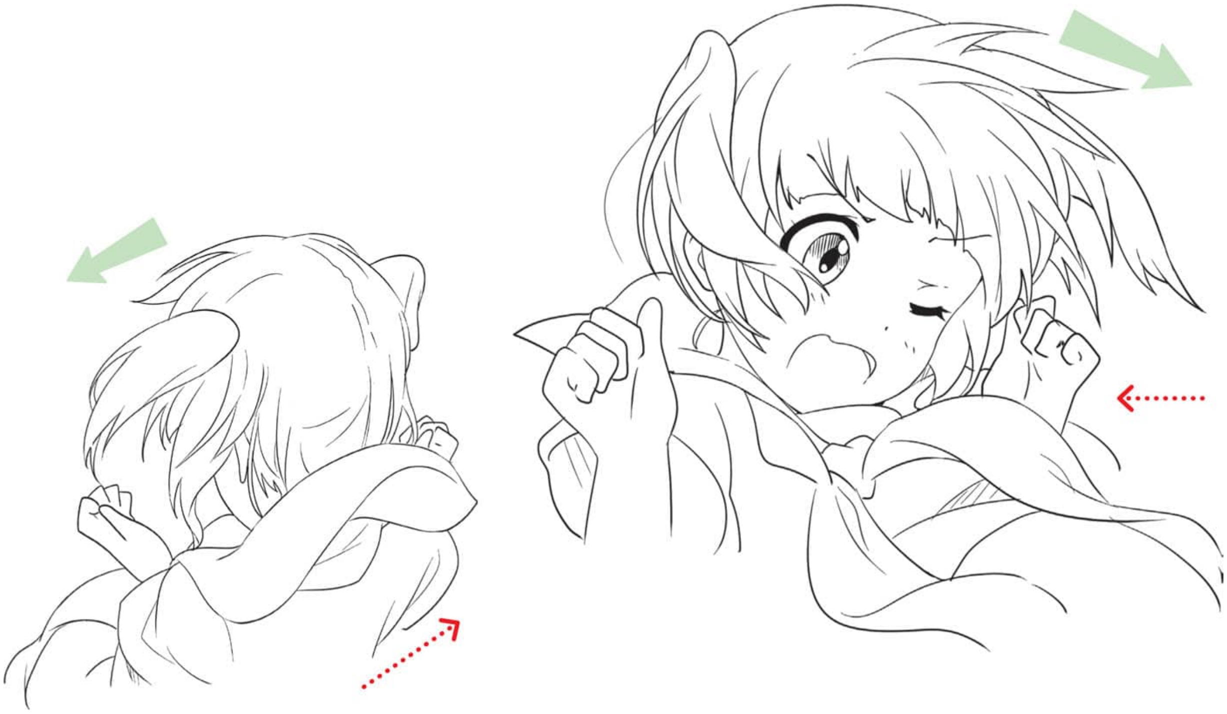
Draw the back of the hair raised as if being blown up by a strong wind to suggest power and strength.



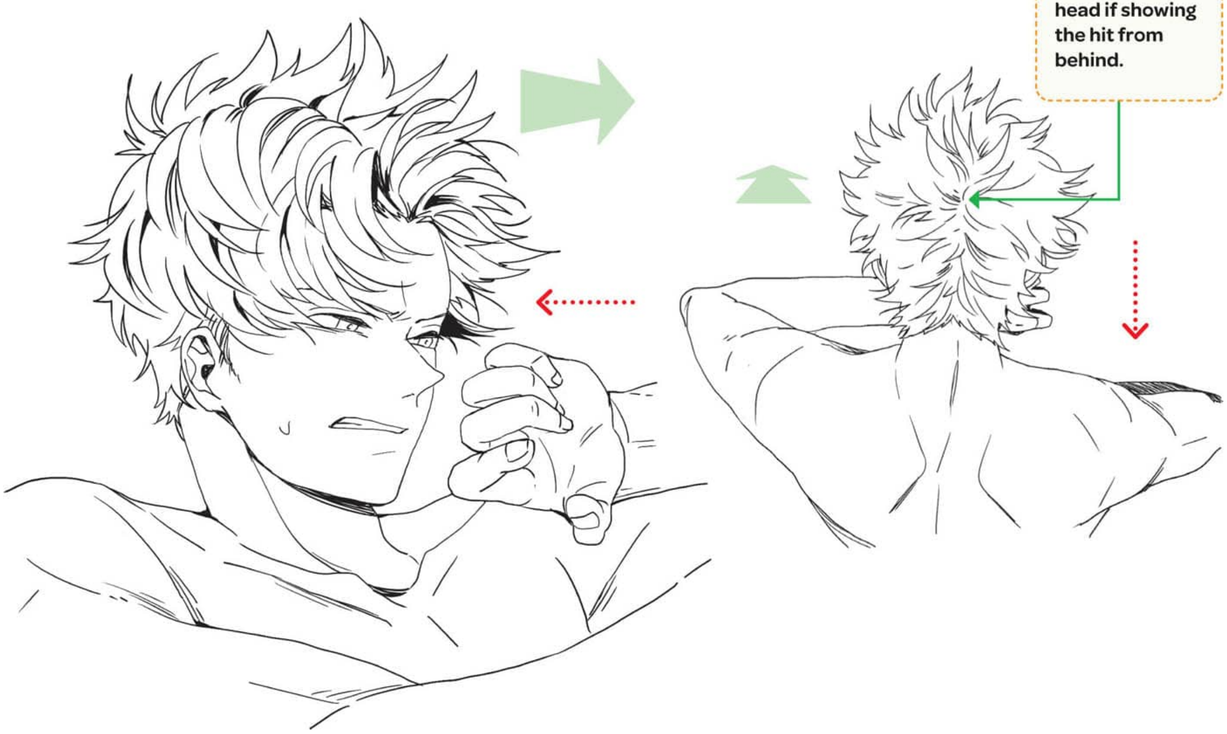
For female characters, the key is to draw the bangs and back of the hair flying out, but keep the overall style of the hair intact. When the spell stops, the hair will float back into place.

Blown Backward

When a person is blown backward, such as being run into or thrown, the hair flows from back to front due to air resistance.

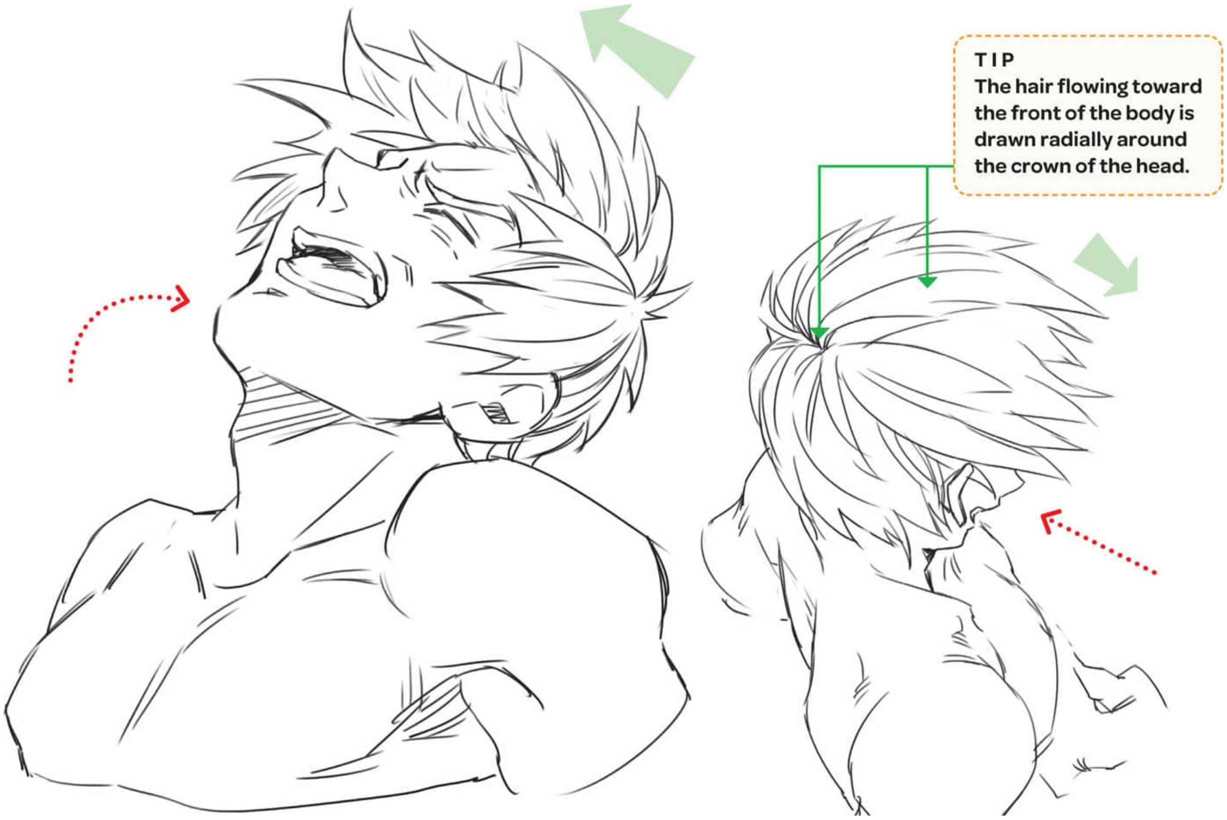


The bangs, side sections, and ponytails flow forward as the body is blown backward. Draw both small, curled sections of hair, as well as thick bundles that create the larger body of hair.



TIP
Draw the hair parting left and right from the center line of the back of the head if showing the hit from behind.

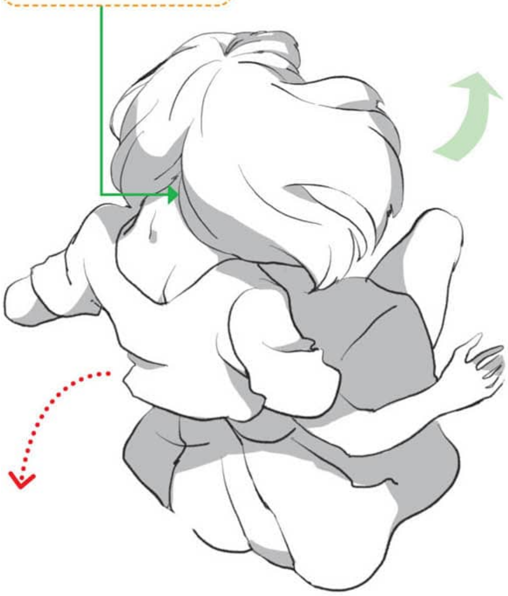
For a short hair, the movement causes the small sections of hair to curl outward. Draw the hair on the front side, such as the bangs, toward the front of the body, and the hair on the back of the head curled up and down.

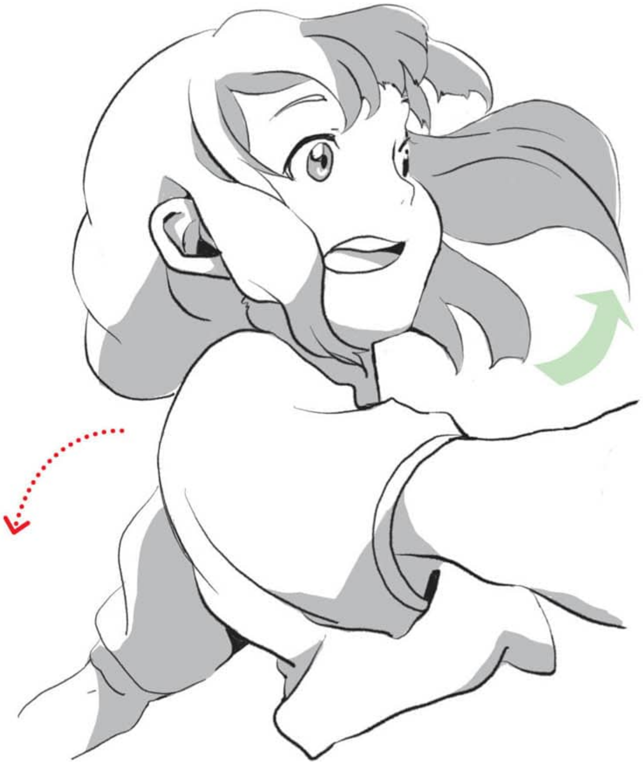


TIP
The hair flowing toward the front of the body is drawn radially around the crown of the head.

Even when the head is dramatically thrown backward, the hair will flow toward the front of the body.

TIP
For long hair, draw the hair flowing forward showing the nape of the neck.

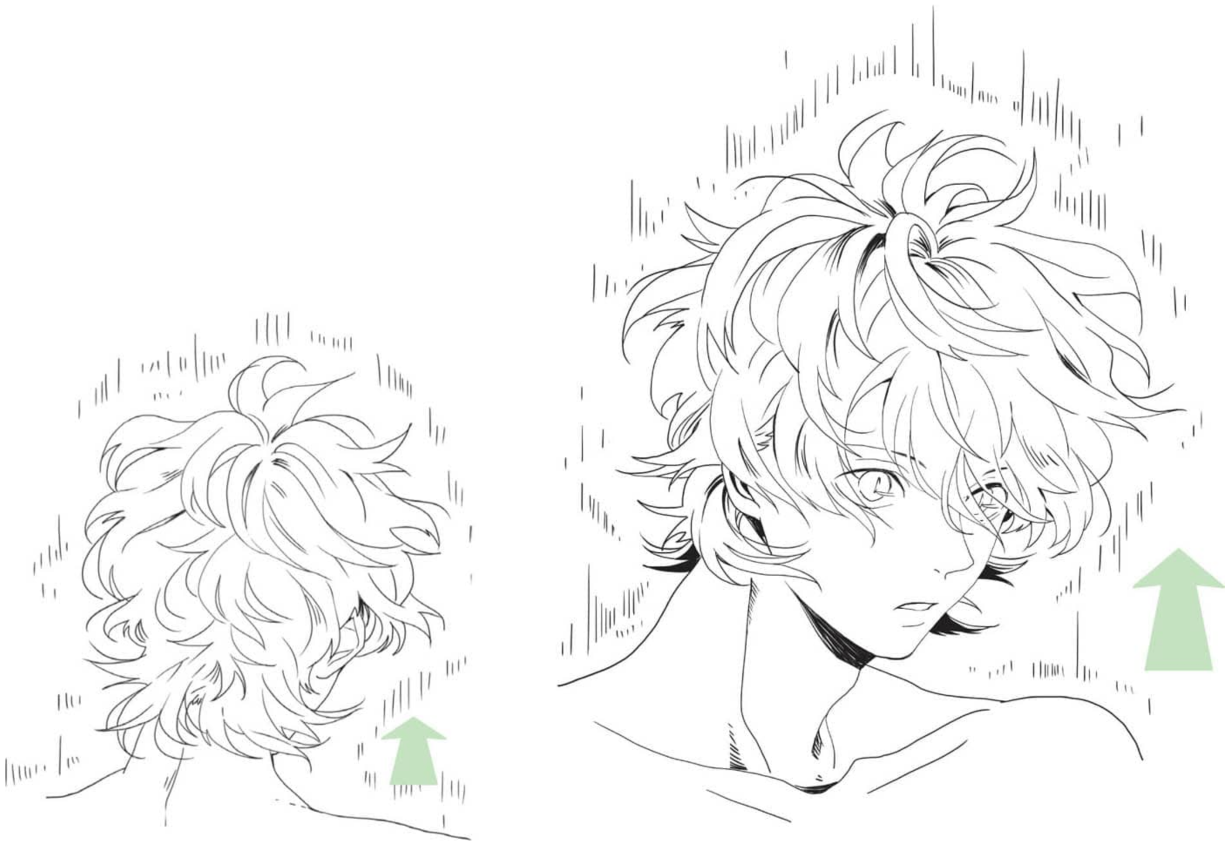




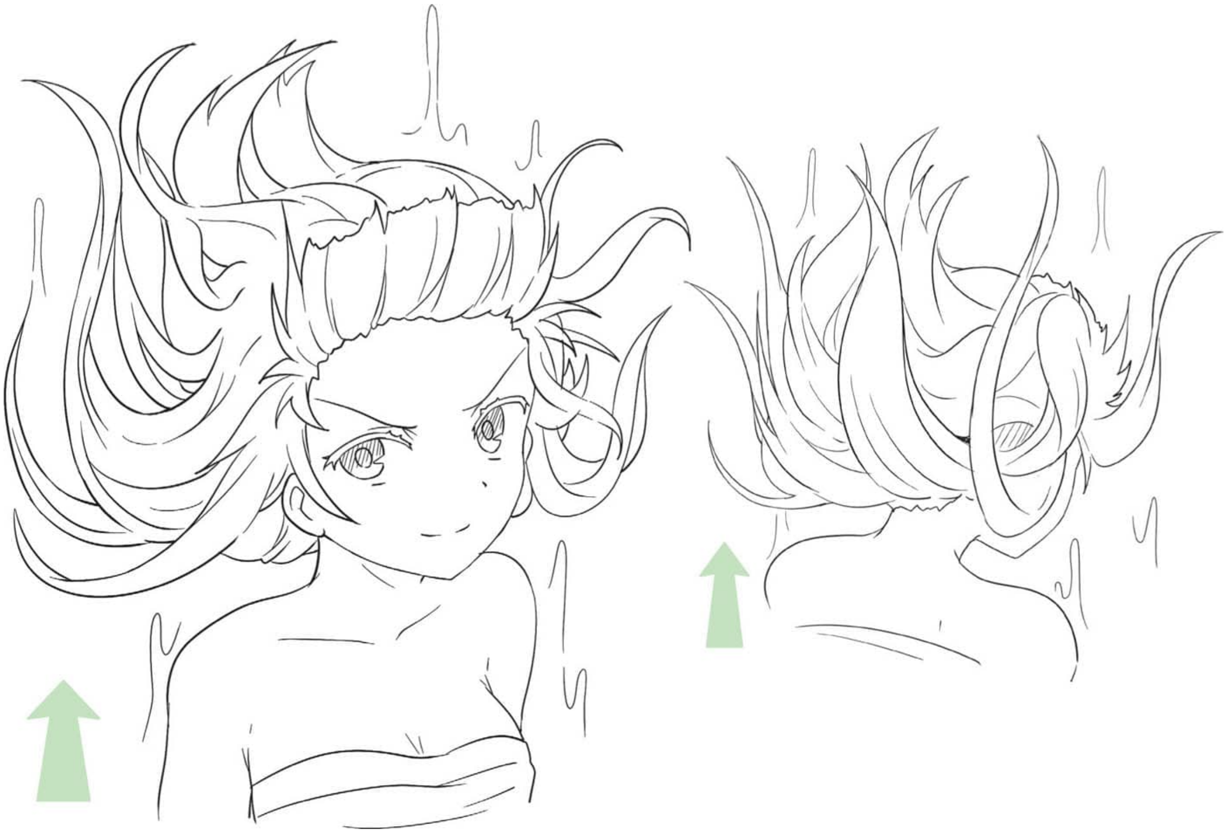
When a character is blown backward and the body starts to fall, the hair will lift up due to air resistance from below. While drawing the hair flowing toward the front of the body, also draw it gently floating up.

Exhibiting an Aura

When a character is emitting an aura from their body, such as power springing up or overflowing energy, the scene will look more believable by drawing the hair lifted from the bottom to the top.



Draw the hair lifted from the top of the head to the neckline. Give the hair a uniform movement.



Suggest an overwhelming power taking over a character by drawing the bangs rising straight up from the hairline and the ends of the hair floating up.

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CHAPTER

04

Beyond the Basics

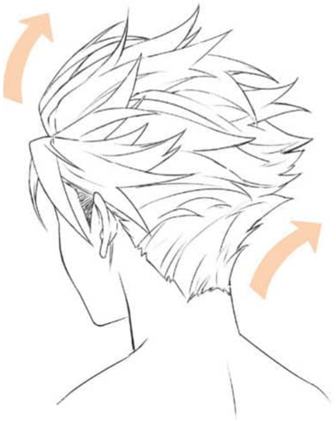
Personality and Hair

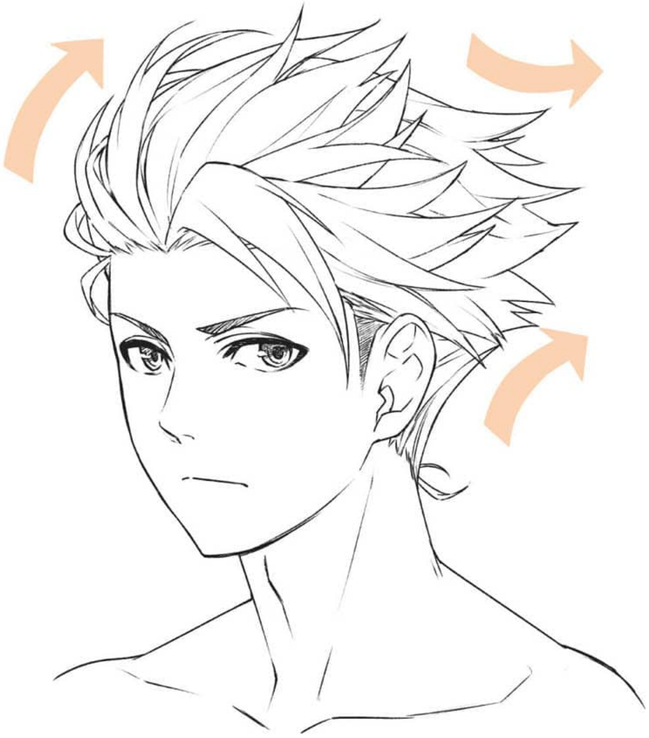
When illustrating a character with personality, an active, dynamic pose is more interesting and expresses more about the character than drawing them standing still. The same goes for their hairstyles! In this section, learn how you can use blowing hair to express personality traits.

Hair Movement

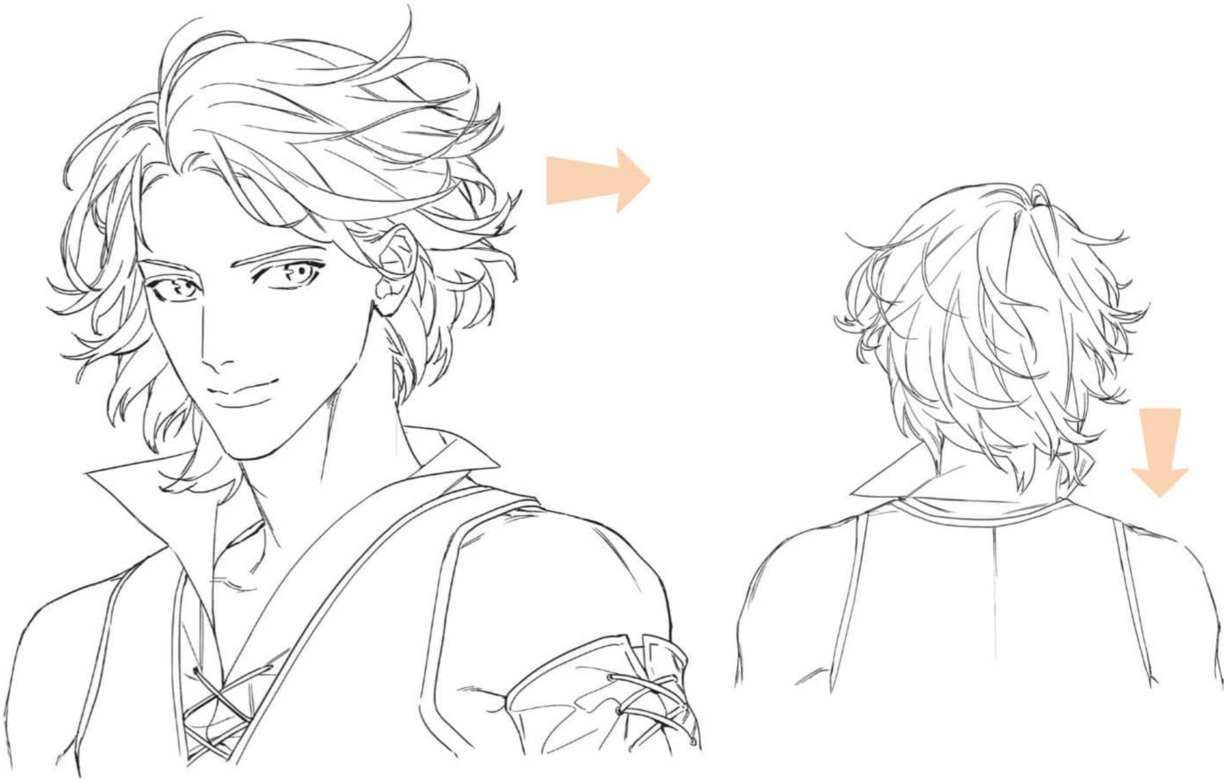
Brave

With a confident physical pose and hair fluttering in the wind, you can make your characters appear brave and fearless.





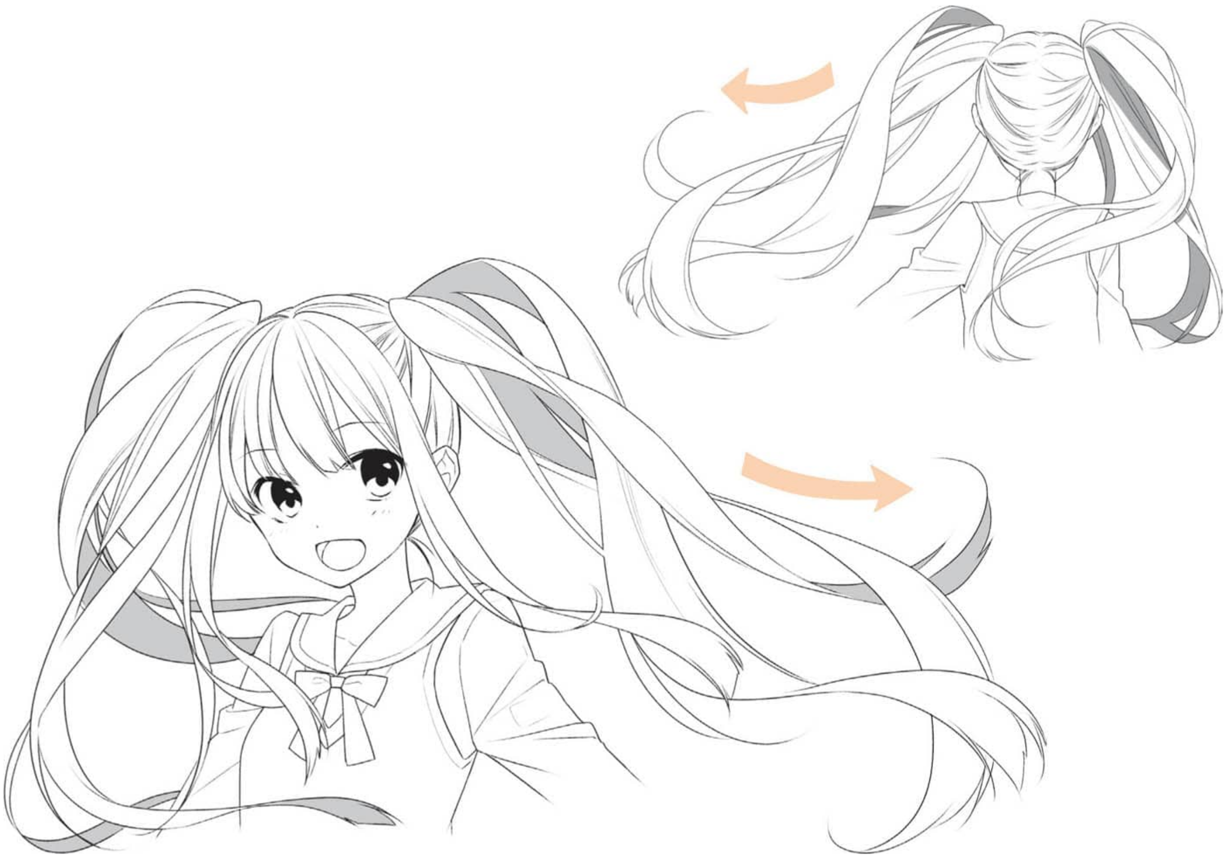
Draw the ends, bangs, sides, and back of medium-length hair blowing away from the face to show confidence and courage amidst a difficult scene.



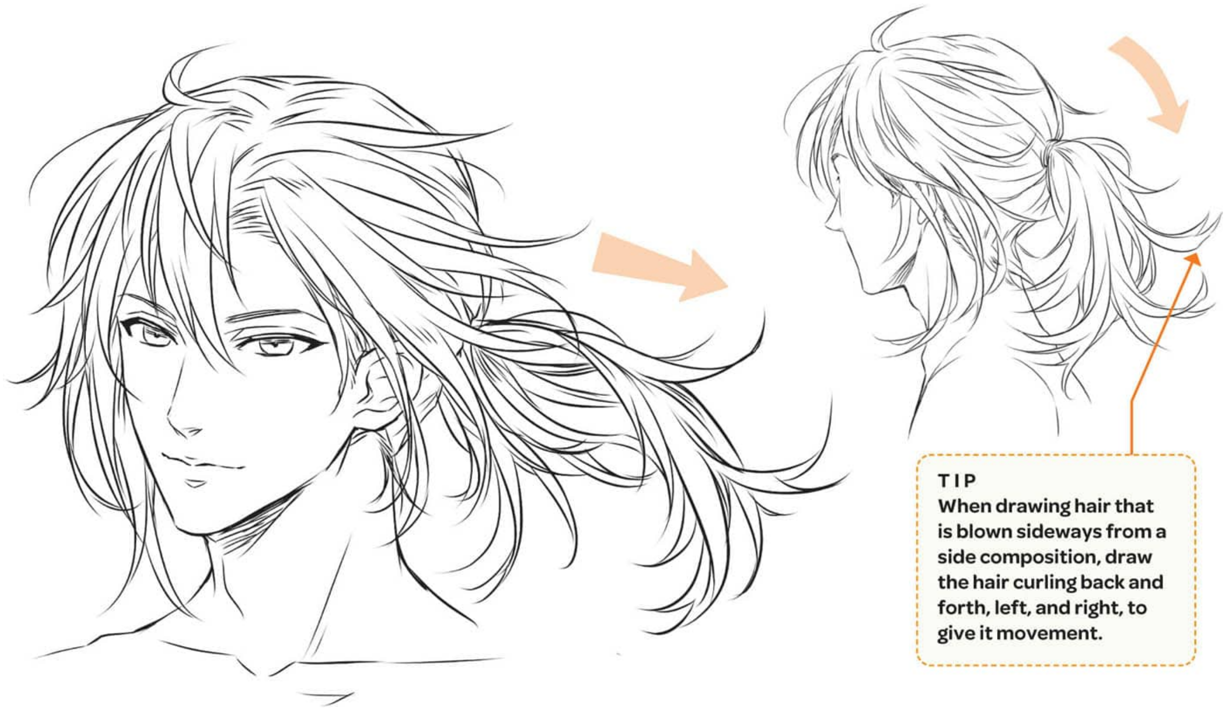
To show a gallant and confident character, draw long hair separating into smaller sections with the ends curling in various directions as it blows in the wind.

Youthful

Ponytails blowing sideways in the wind give the impression of a character that is youthful, carefree, and innocent.



The movement of the twin ponytails, with the ends blowing wildly in the wind, suggests a character that is childlike and joyful.

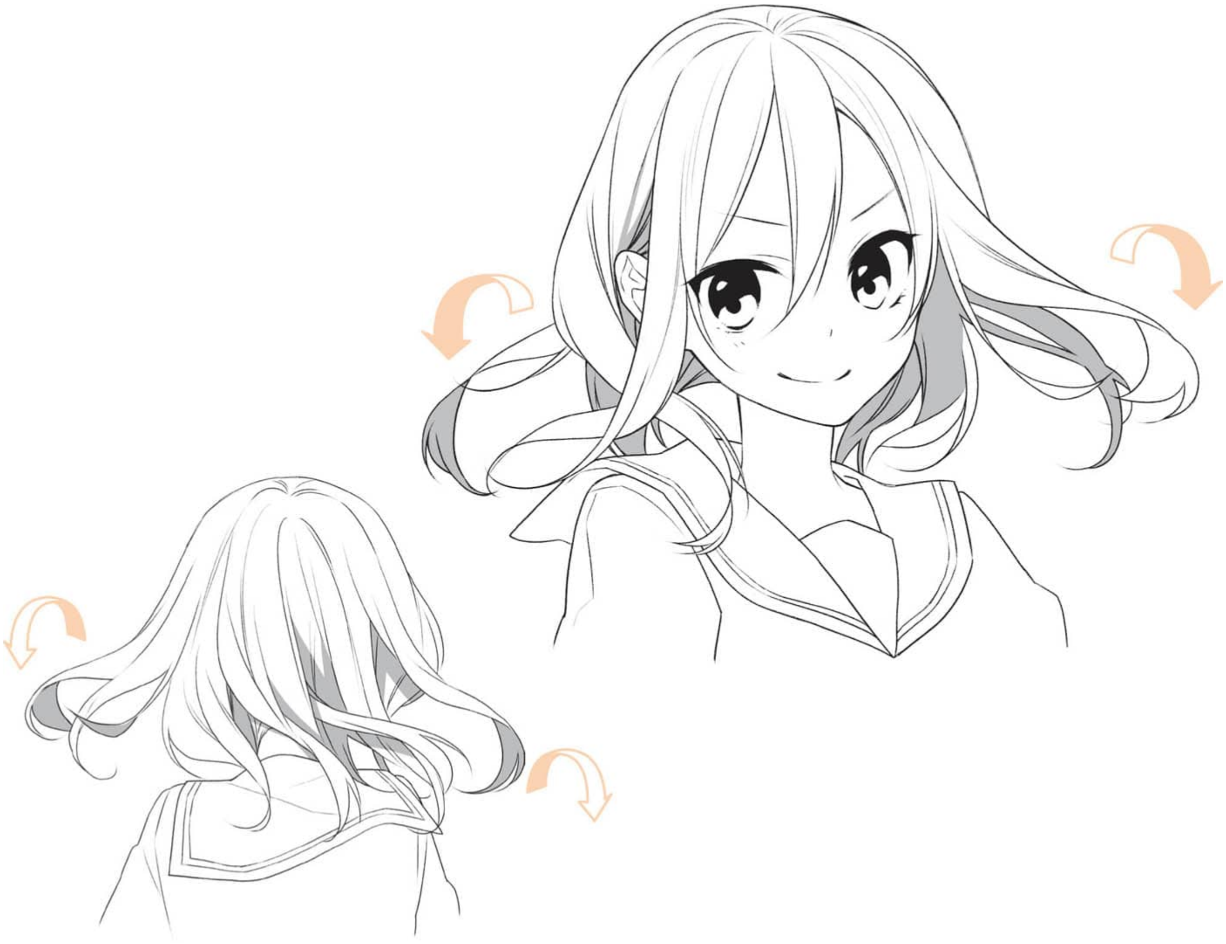


TIP
When drawing hair that is blown sideways from a side composition, draw the hair curling back and forth, left, and right, to give it movement.

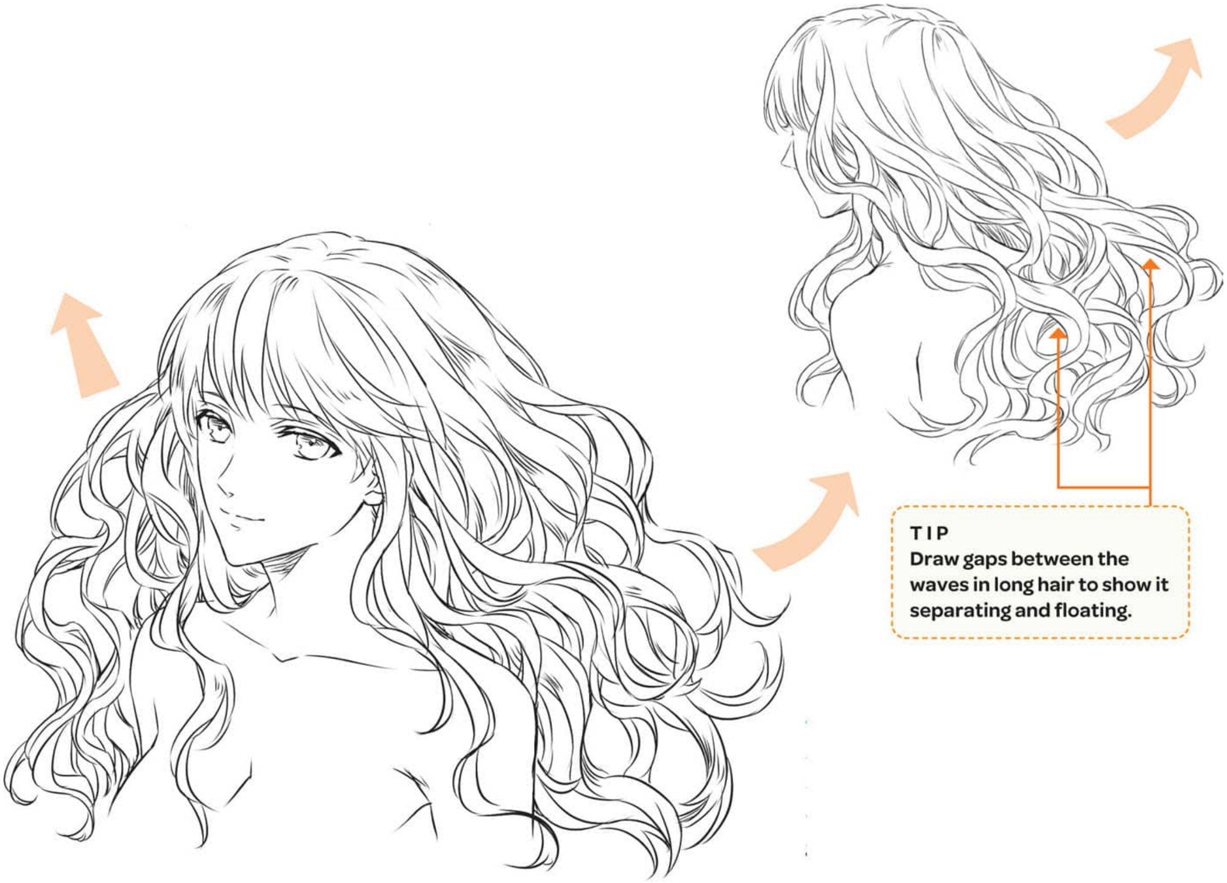
By gently fluttering the bangs, loose hair, and ponytail sideways, a character's personality takes on a gentle, carefree quality.

Enchanted

Drawing hair raised so that it floats and dances around a character’s face suggests a sense of magic and enchantment. Paired with appropriate facial expressions, you can suggest positive or negative magical influences.

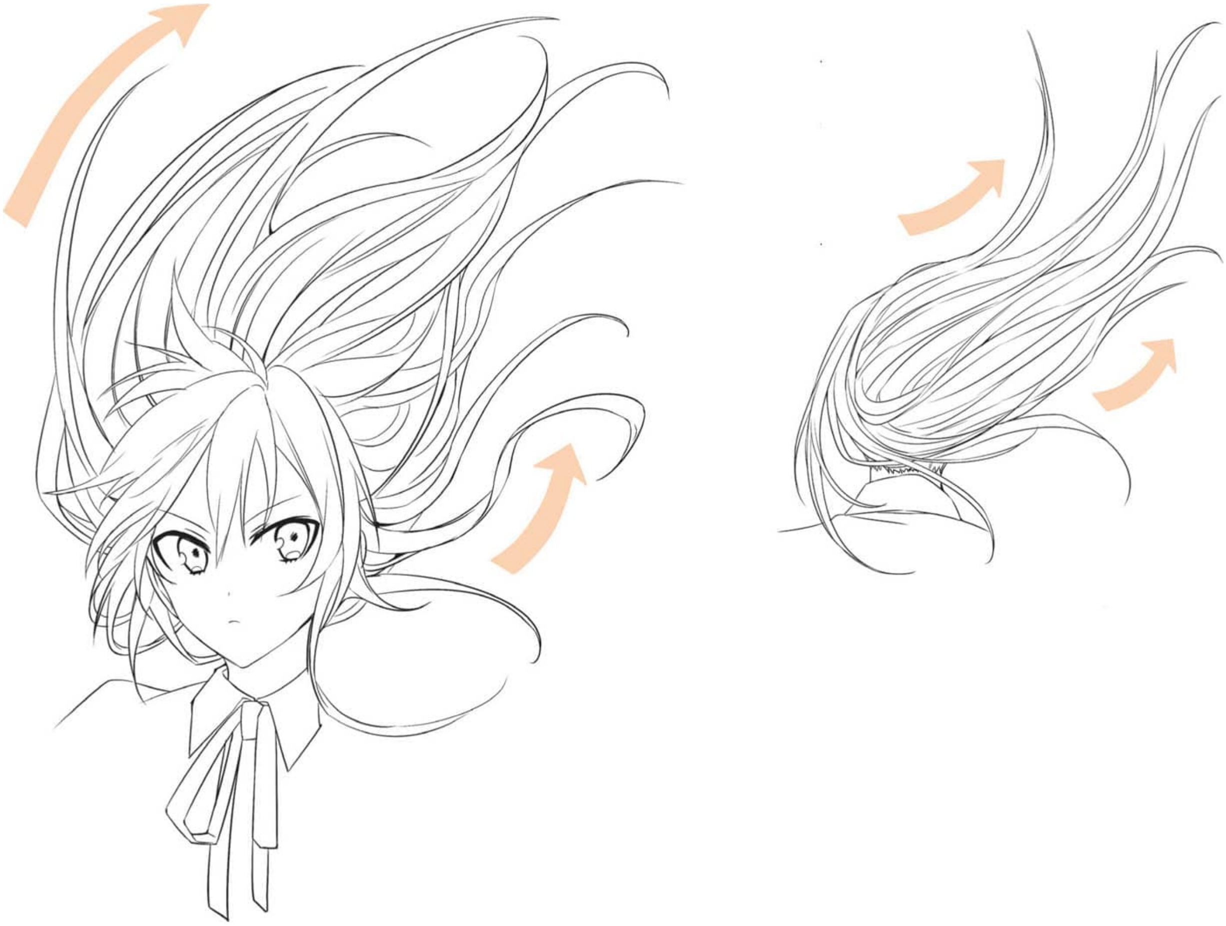


Long hair floats around the shoulders of this enchanted character. With a soft grin and wide eyes, it’s clear her personality is bright and cheerful.

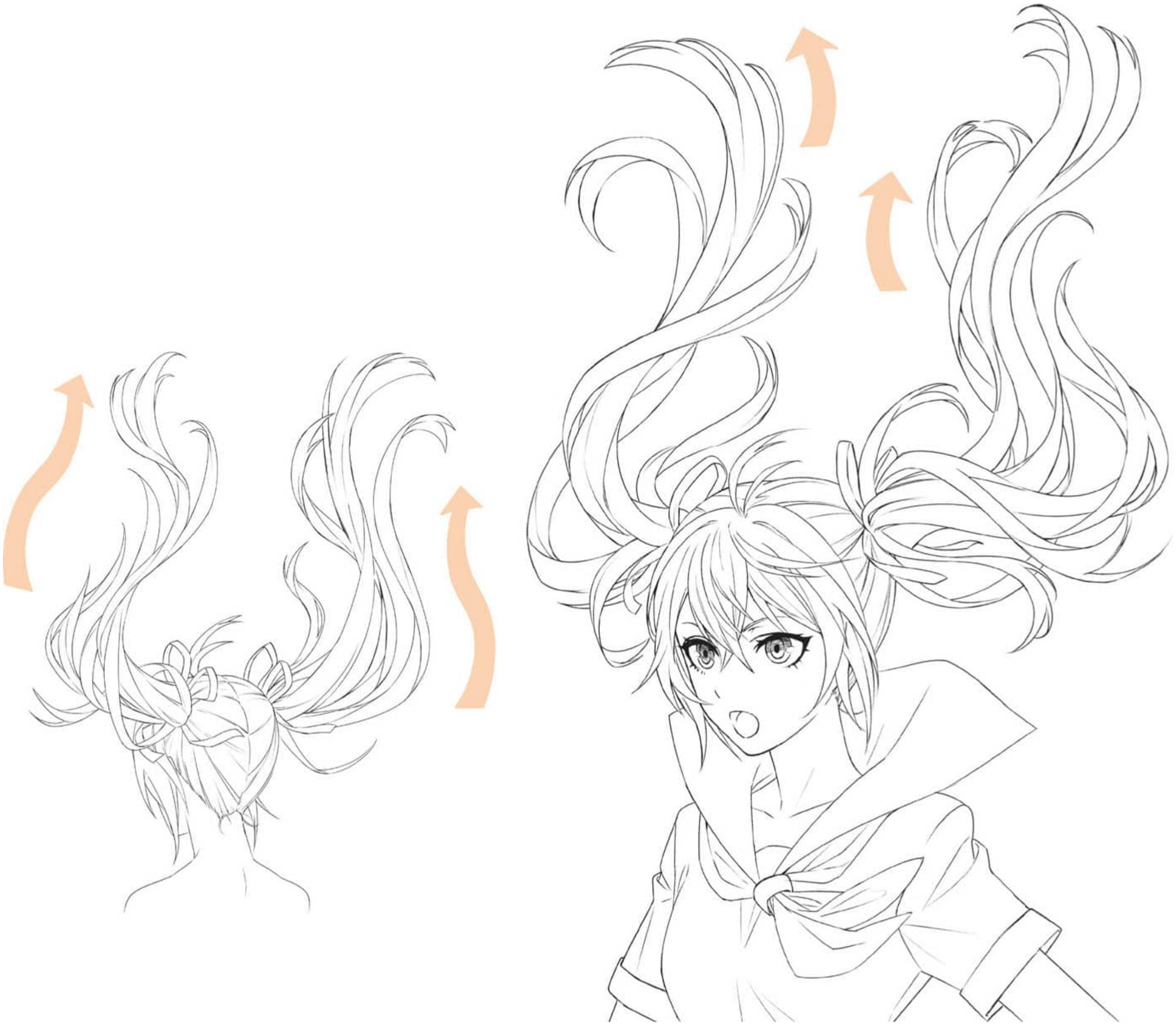


TIP
Draw gaps between the waves in long hair to show it separating and floating.

Super-long hair floating at shoulder level spreads out wide and gives the impression of a quiet power when drawn with a gentle facial expression.



Long hair defying gravity and flying straight up with the ends coming to points implies a powerful energy when drawn with a stern facial expression.



Draw twin ponytails blown upward with bends and curves to show the enchanting power of a character with long hair.

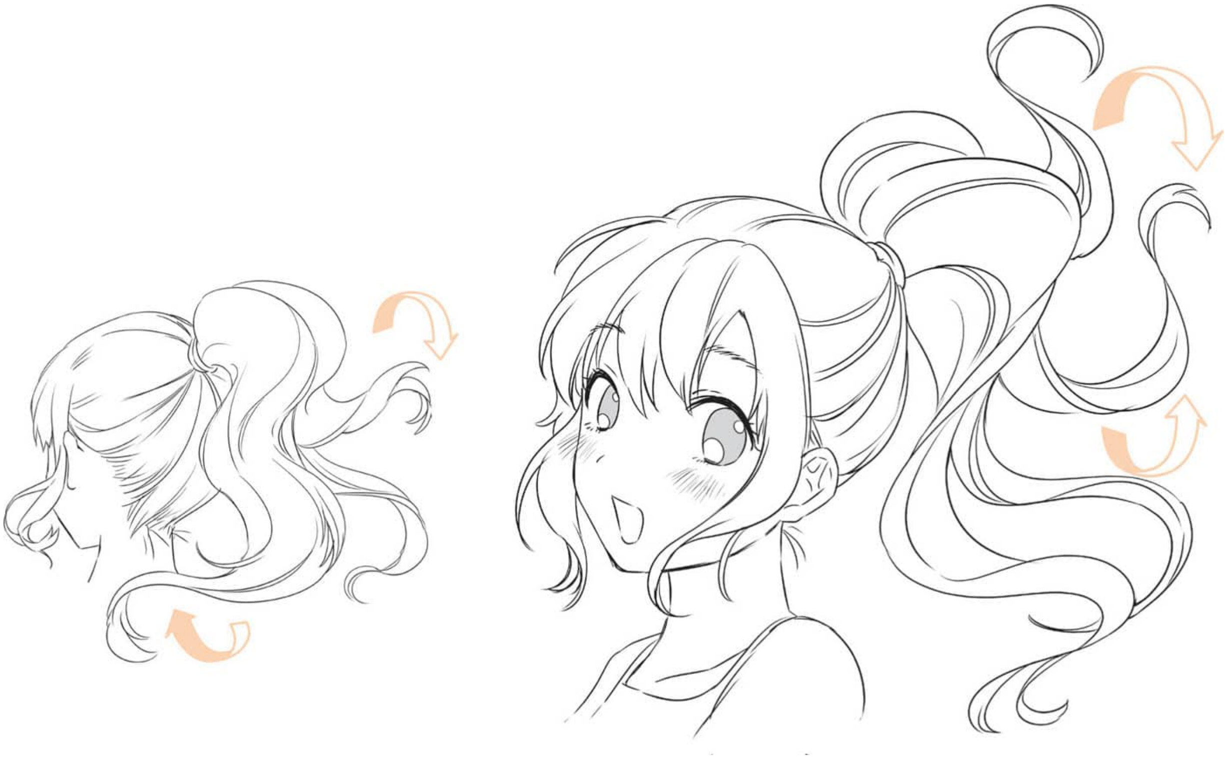
Emotions and Hair

Where windblown hair can express a character’s personality, the way hair curls can suggest emotions. In this section, learn how the ends of hair can show feelings when the character is standing still or moving.

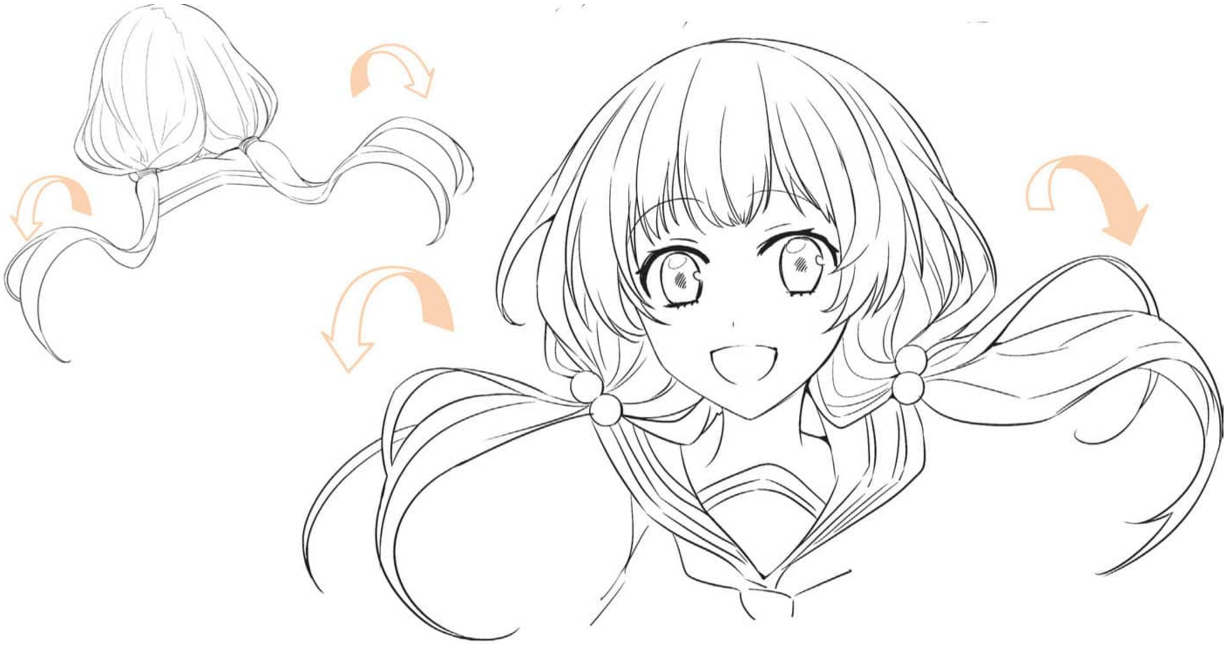
← **Hair Movement**

Joyful Movement

When a character is happy, that joy moves through their entire body, including their hair. Here, the movement is jumping and skipping. As the characters bounce, their hair expresses the fun, too.



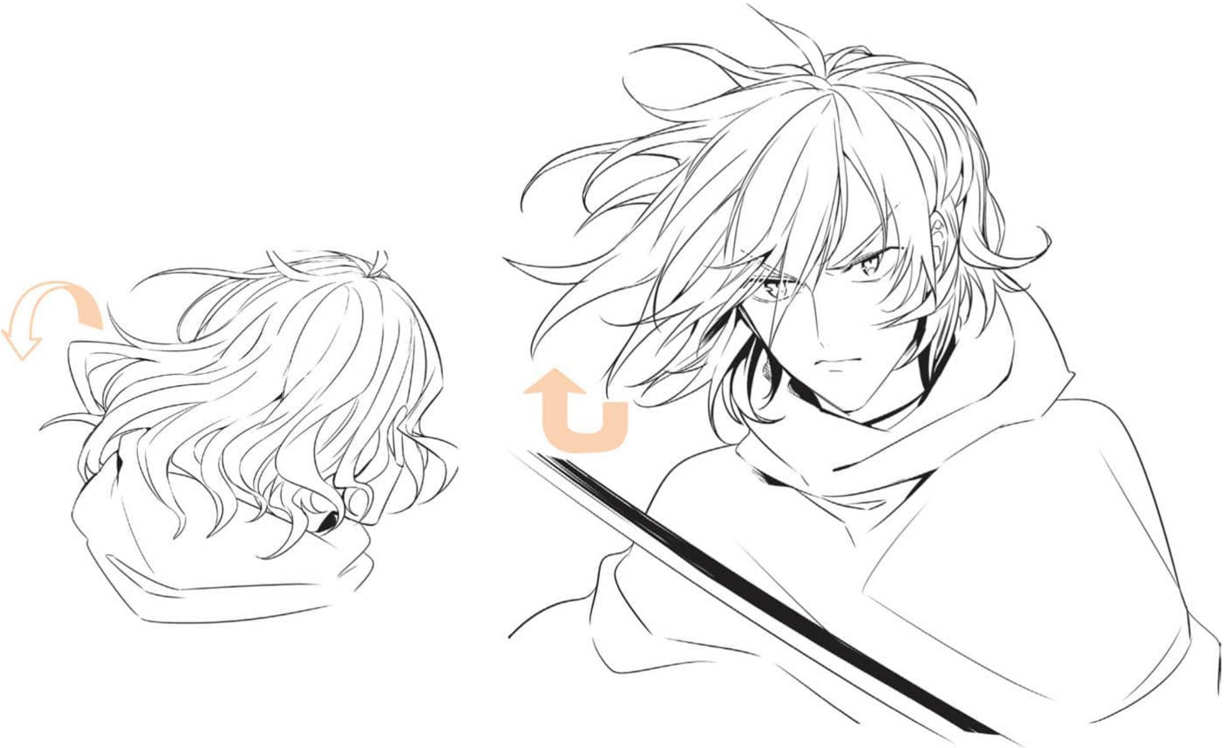
A long ponytail bounces, and the ends form big buoyant curls that float in the air, as this character joyfully skips.



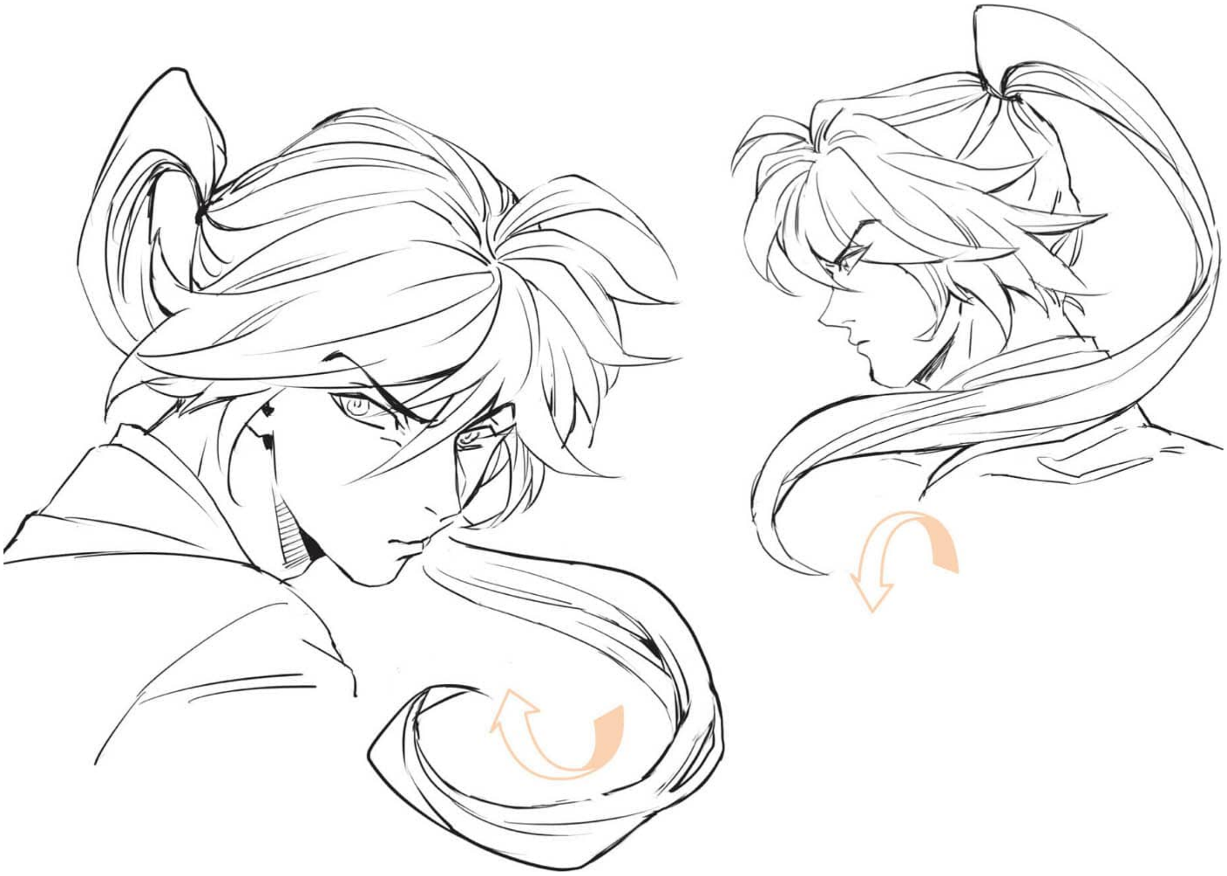
Jumping up and down on both feet is sending waves of movement through this character’s twin ponytails. The ponytails whip up and down with the jumping and the ends form large, gentle curves in a happy expression.

Determined Stance

Drawing dynamic hairstyles can transform a simple standing pose into a powerful, determined stance.



With a fierce facial expression and hair blown to one side, this character’s willpower appears strong against their opponent.



You can express a sense of urgency and determination to defeat an opponent during a battle scene by drawing the back hair in an exaggerated S-shape.

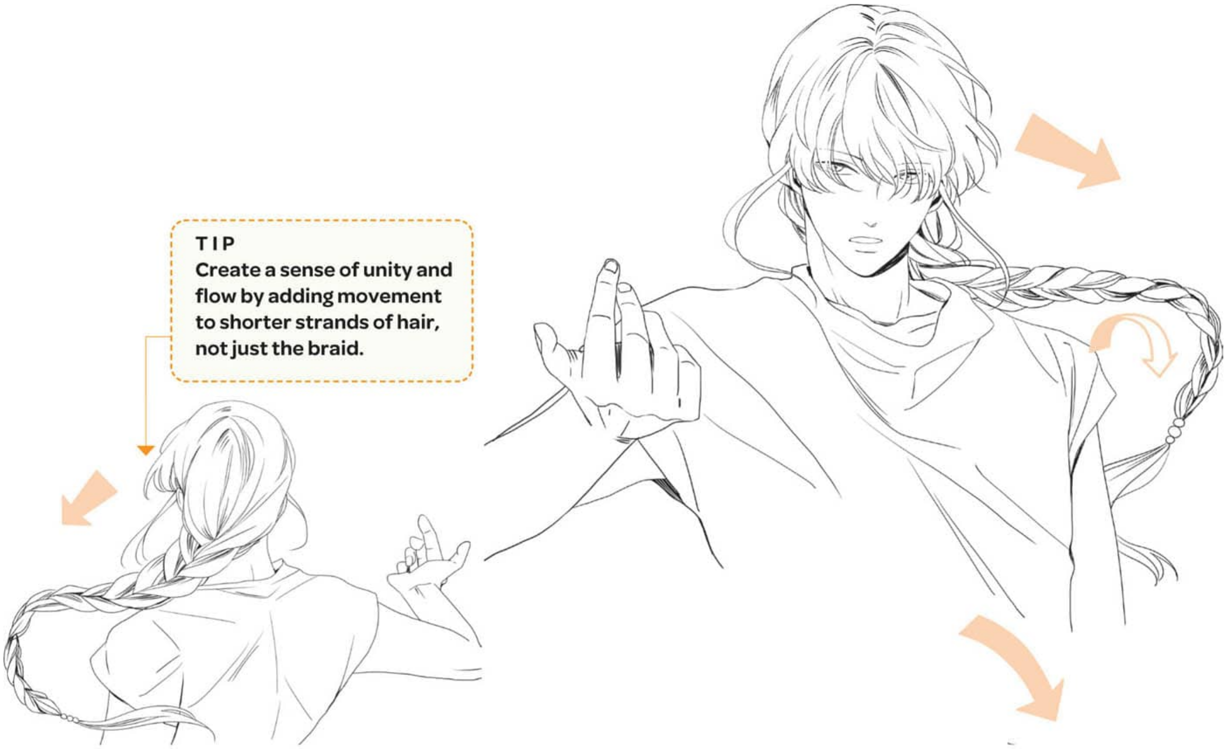
Power Pose Hairstyles

Every manga character has a signature pose. Here, we learn how hairstyles can complement your character in a variety of scenes, whether it’s a static or moving power pose.

Hair Movement

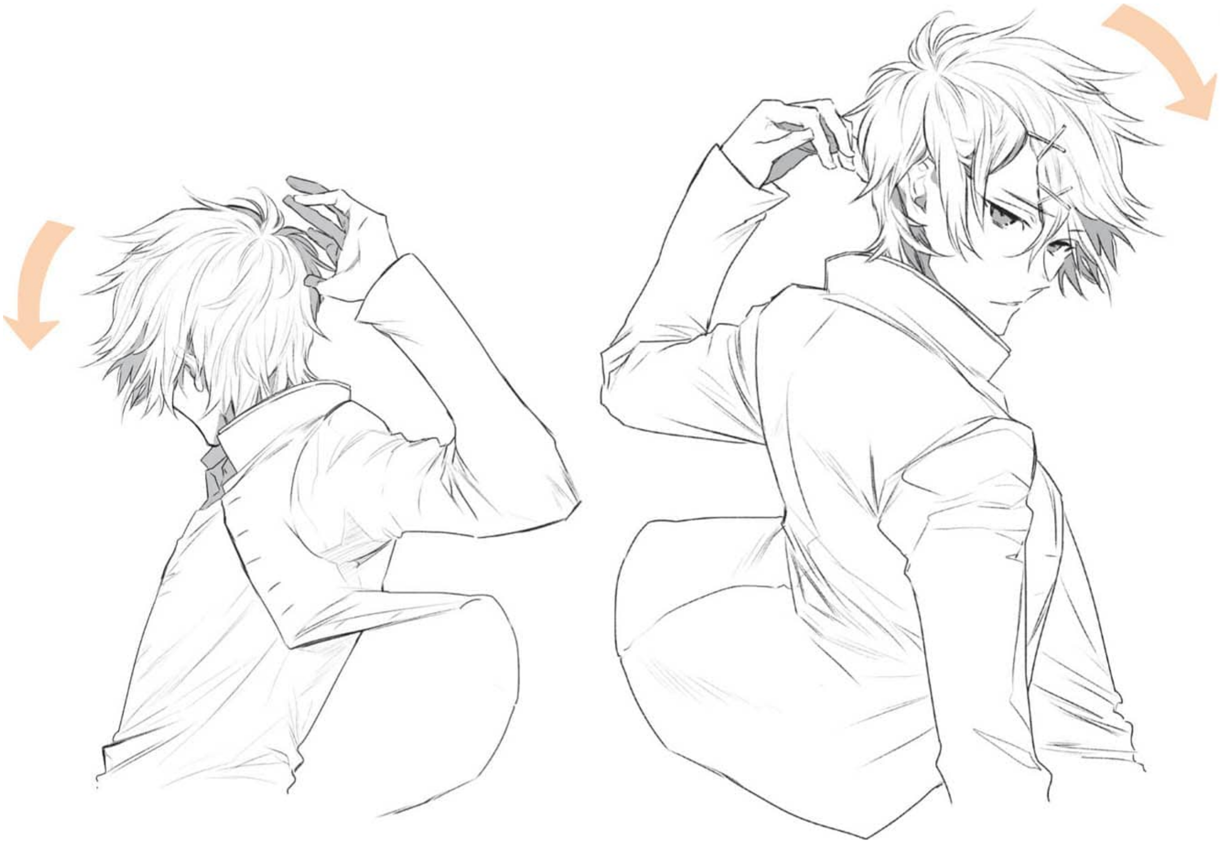
Still Poses

Even in poses where the body does not move much, such as standing still, a character’s presence is strengthened by adding movement to their hair.

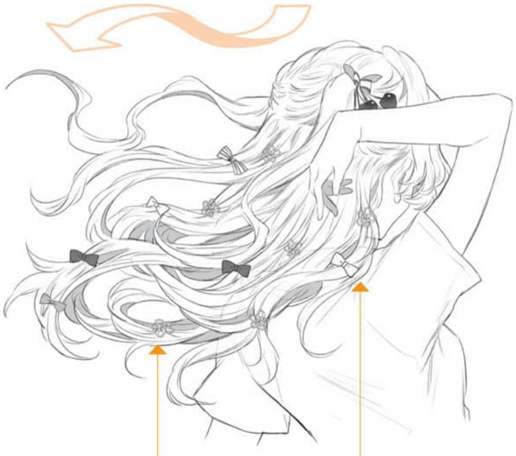


TIP
Create a sense of unity and flow by adding movement to shorter strands of hair, not just the braid.

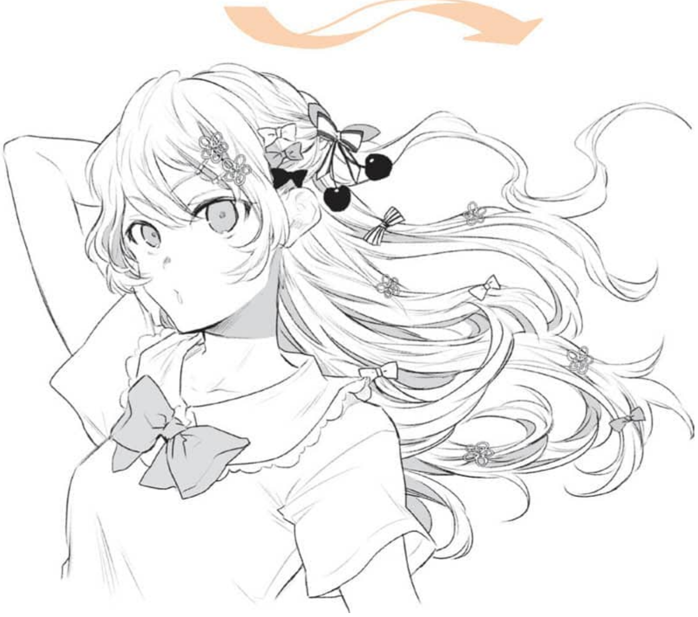
By adding movement to the braid on this character, you can feel the power just before a big move.



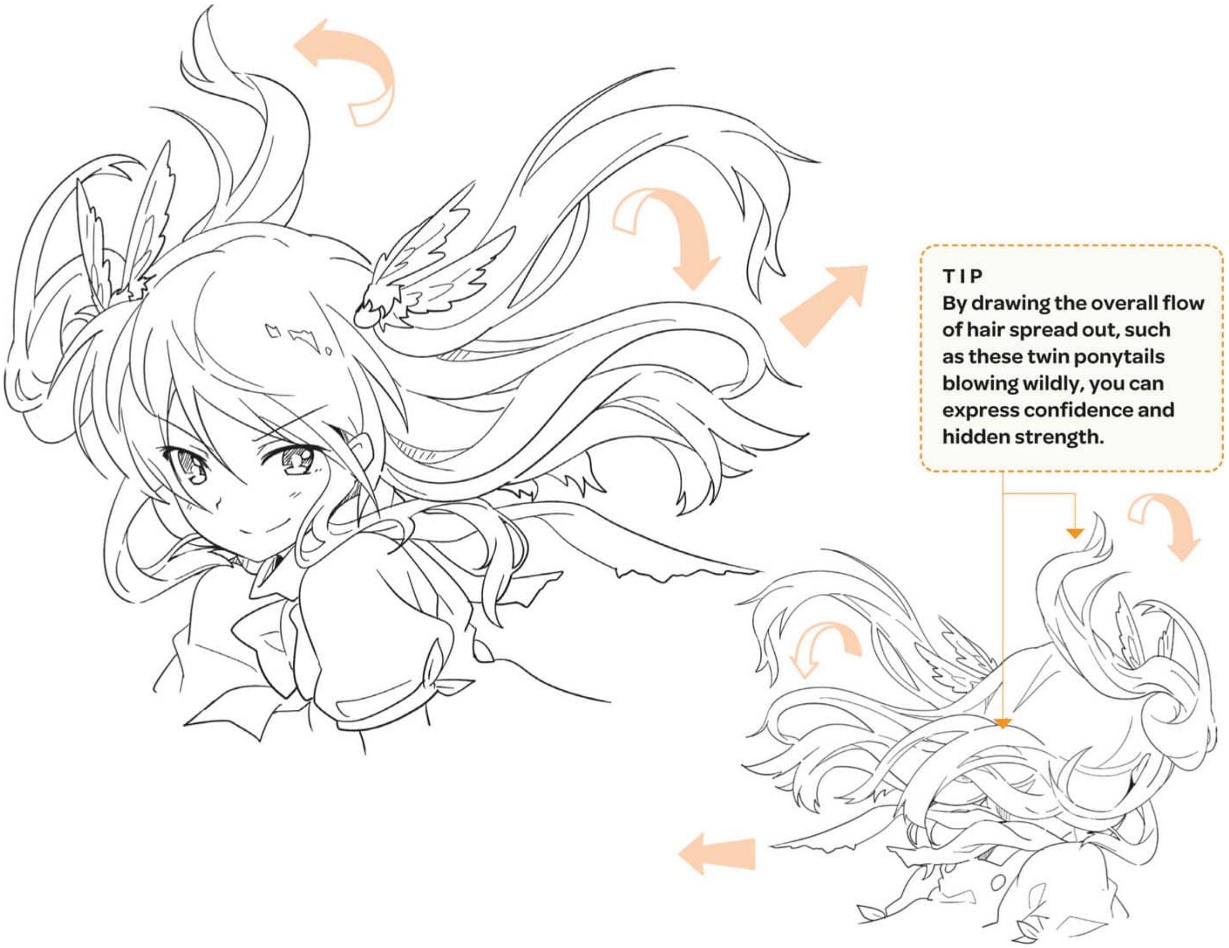
By drawing the gesturing hand and the hair blown forward, it creates an intimidating atmosphere, as if the character has special abilities.



TIP
Ribbons and flowers in long, flowing hair accentuate the feel of strong wind blowing.



Adding embellishments to long hair, such as ribbons, barrettes, and flowers, can enhance the look of movement in wind or water.

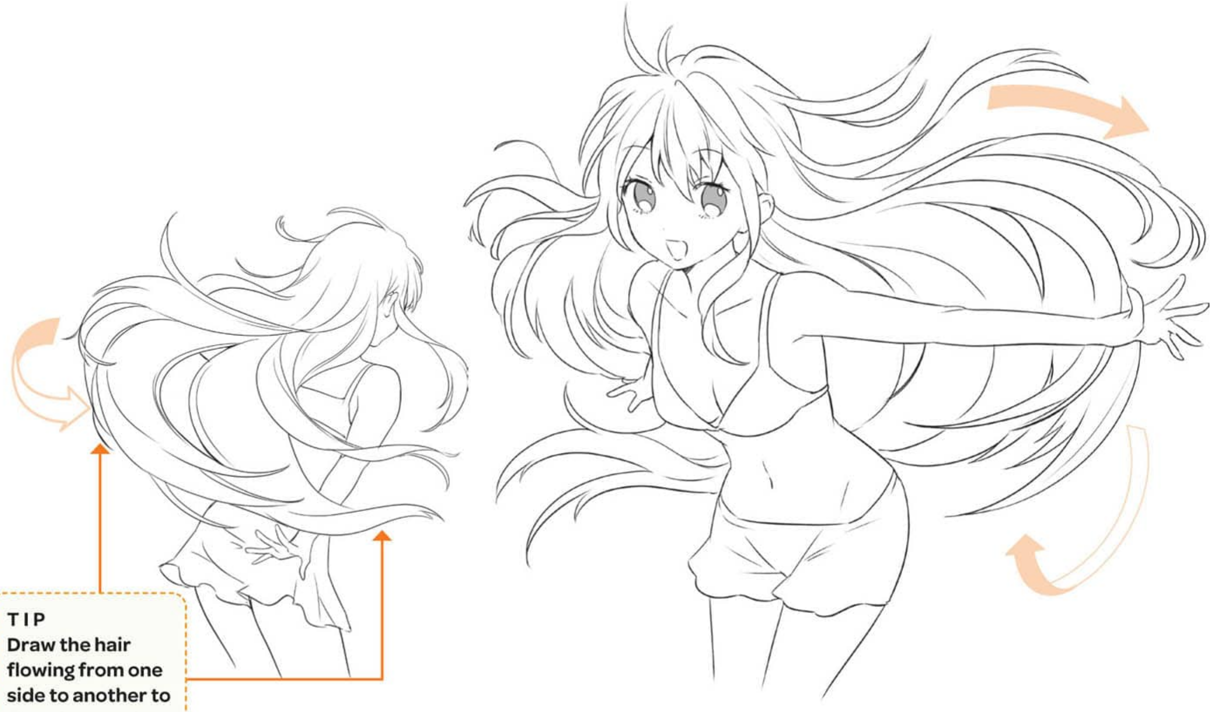


TIP
By drawing the overall flow of hair spread out, such as these twin ponytails blowing wildly, you can express confidence and hidden strength.

You can create a confident personality not only in facial expressions, but also in hair.

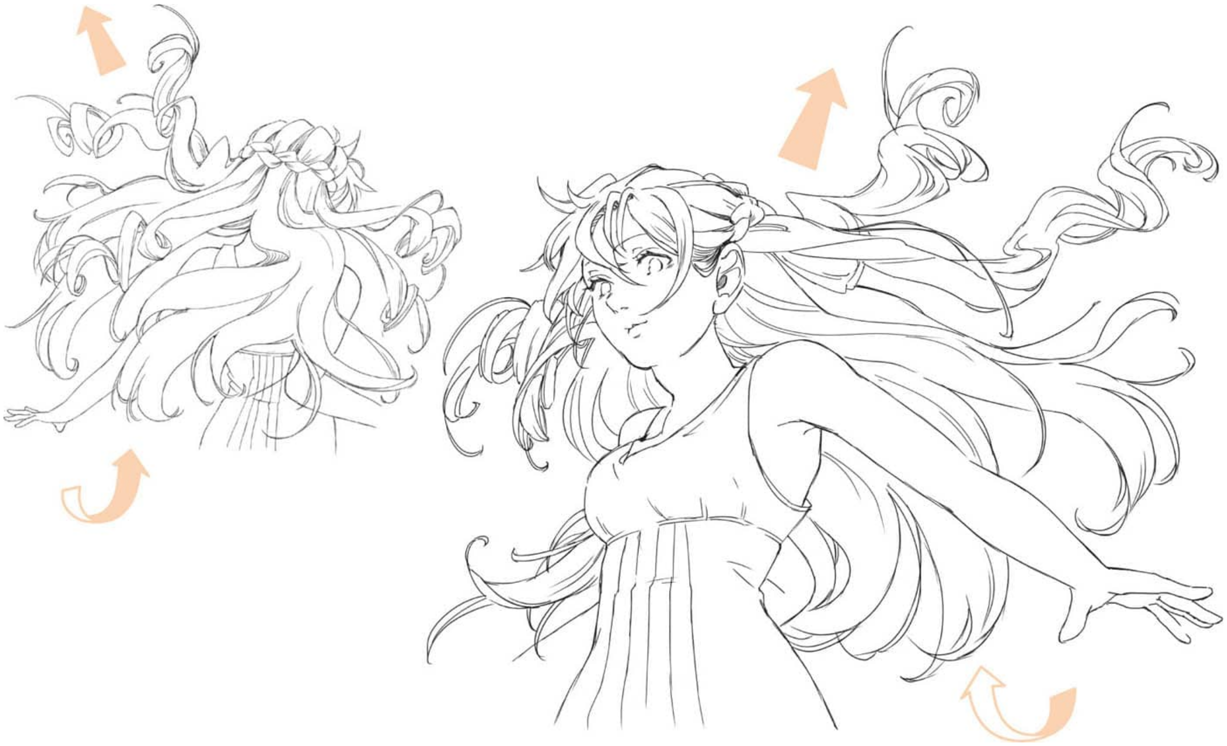
Poses with Movement

When a power pose involves movement, such as spreading both arms or attacking someone, it is important to add movement to the hair as well.

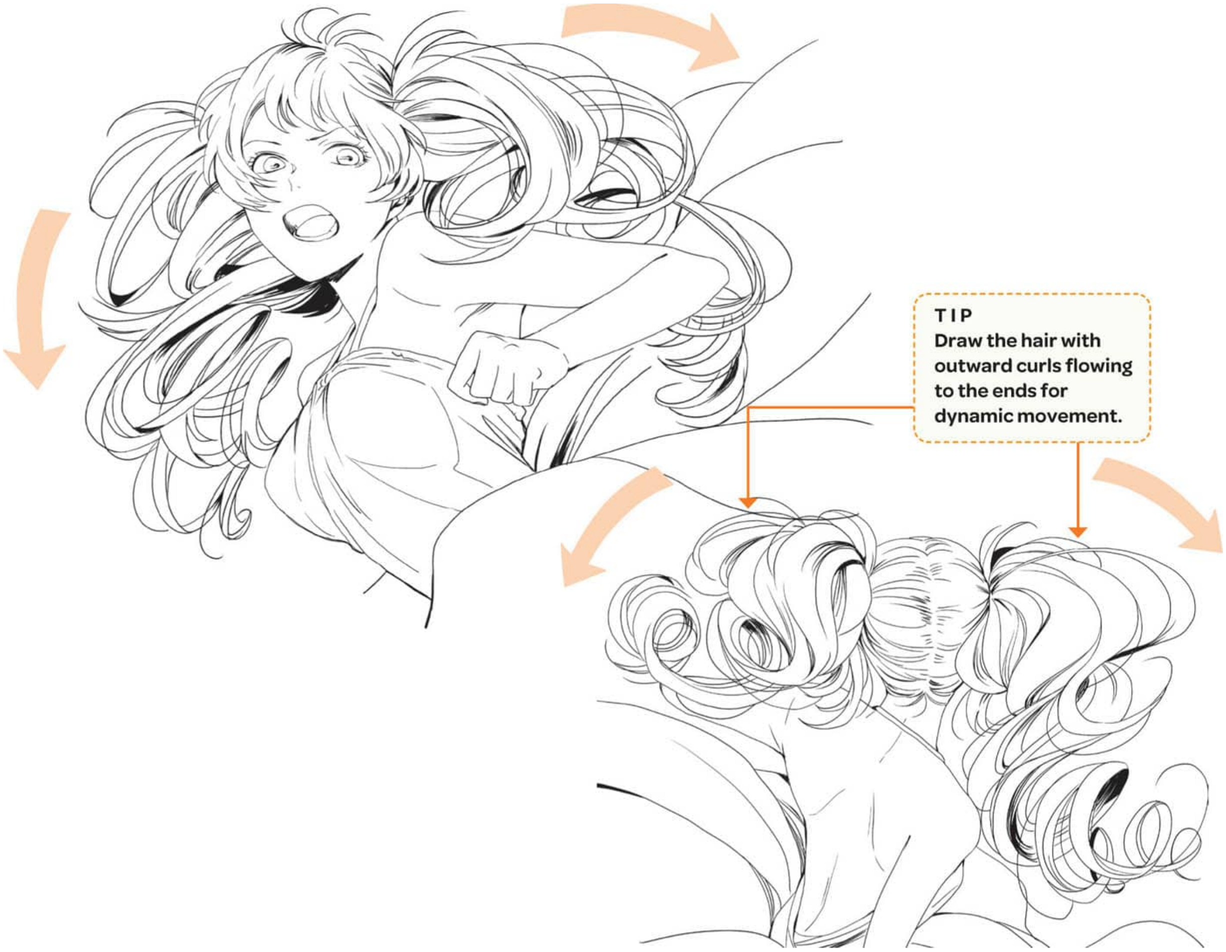


TIP
Draw the hair flowing from one side to another to show interesting movement.

Super-long hair is drawn wrapping around the widespread arms of this character. The effect makes the character appear larger and more powerful.

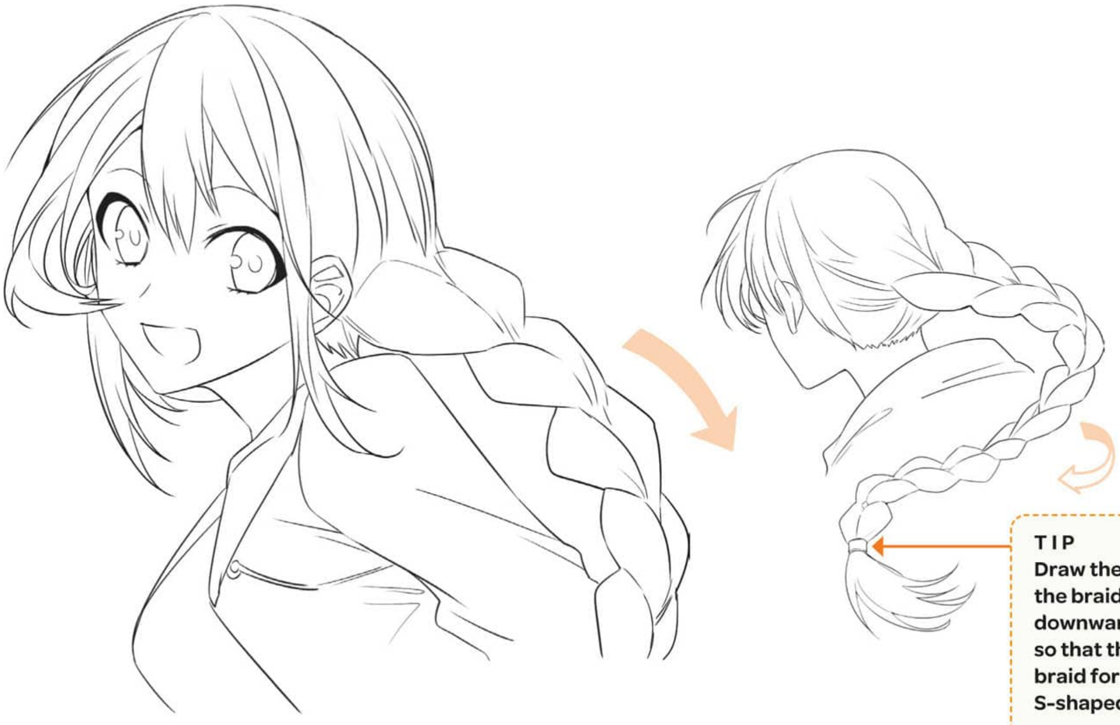


When drawing this pose from a low angle, the hair spreads out and flies above the head to fill the frame.



TIP
Draw the hair with outward curls flowing to the ends for dynamic movement.

In a violent kicking pose, draw different sections of hair curling on the left and right sides of the body to give the hair volume and to match the energy of the movement.

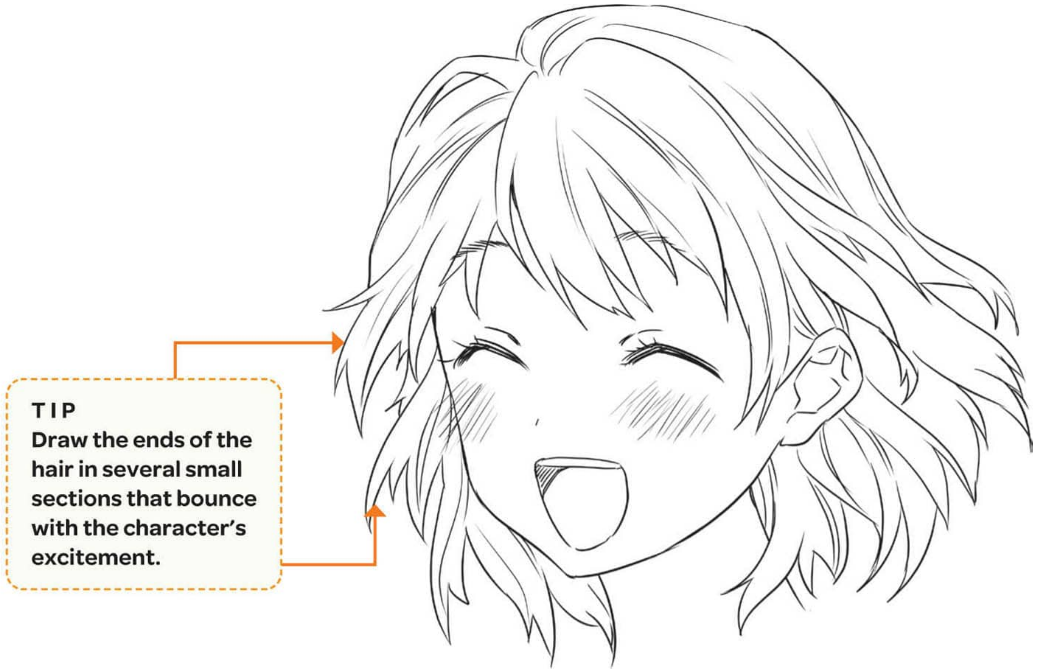


TIP
Draw the end of the braid curving downward so that the braid forms a S-shaped curve.

Express a bouncing movement that radiates through a long braid by drawing the braid with a S-shaped curve.

COMMON EMOTIONS

No matter what language a character speaks, there are common emotions across cultures that can be easily communicated through hair and facial expressions. Here, we look at six universal feelings.

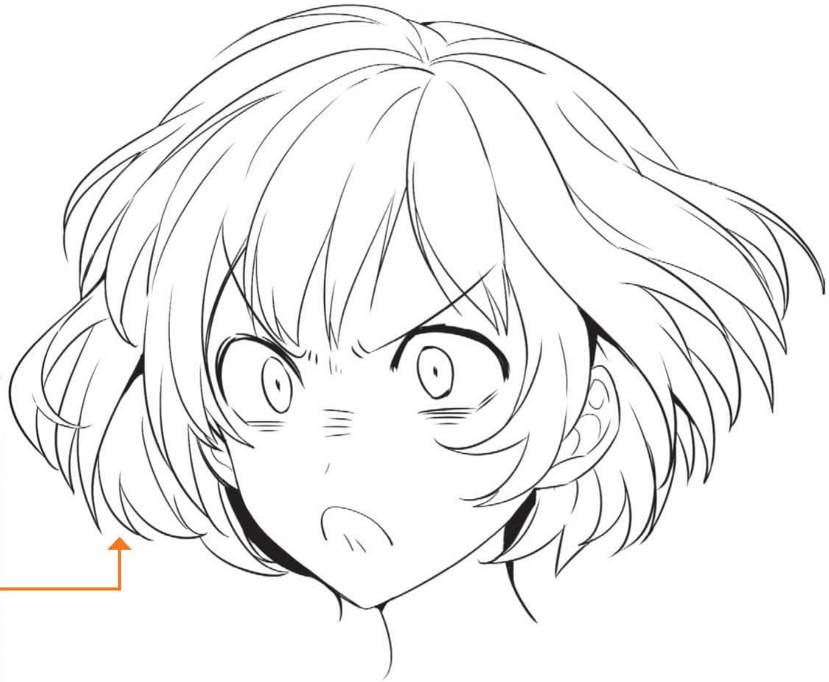


TIP

Draw the ends of the hair in several small sections that bounce with the character's excitement.

JOY

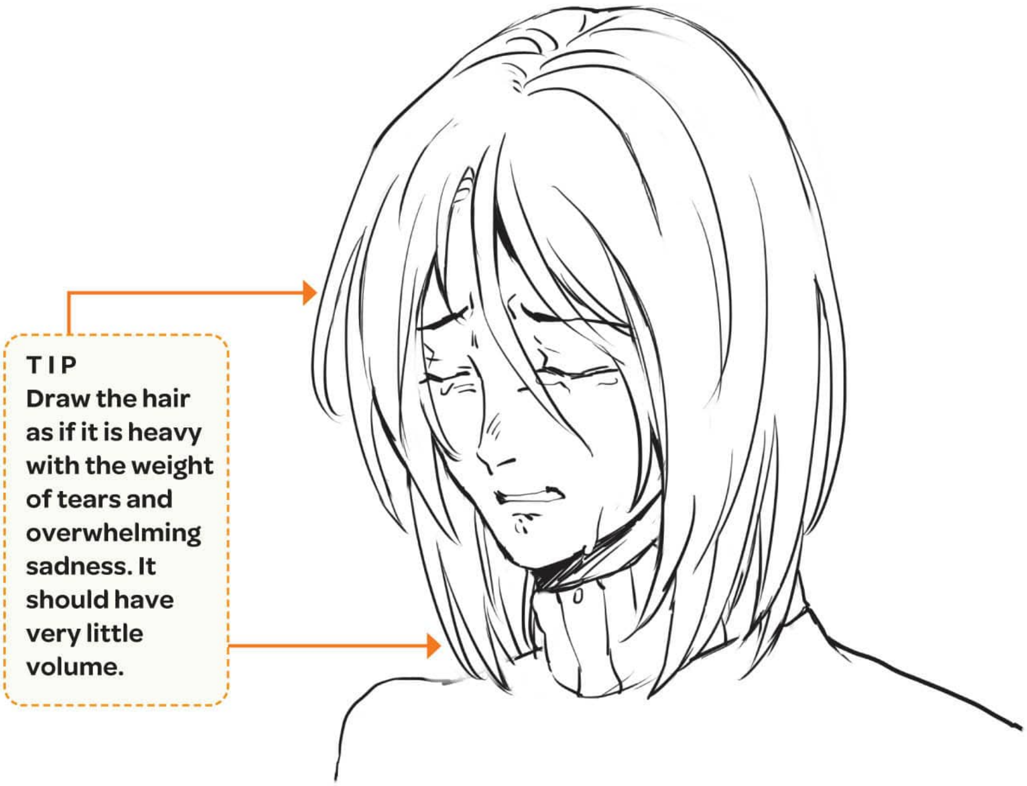
Draw the hair spread out as if the hair itself is full of excitement and joy.



TIP
Draw the ends of the hair expanding with the pressure of this emotion. The ends curl inward.

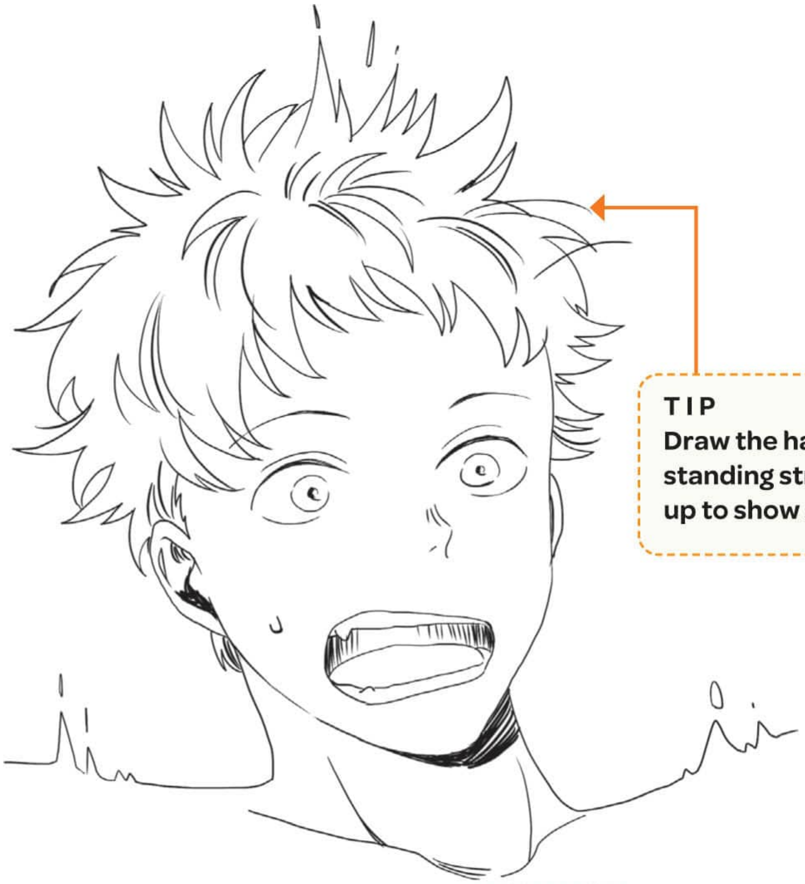
ANGER

Draw the hair expanding outward as if exploding with anger and frustration.


TIP
Draw the hair as if it is heavy with the weight of tears and overwhelming sadness. It should have very little volume.

SADNESS

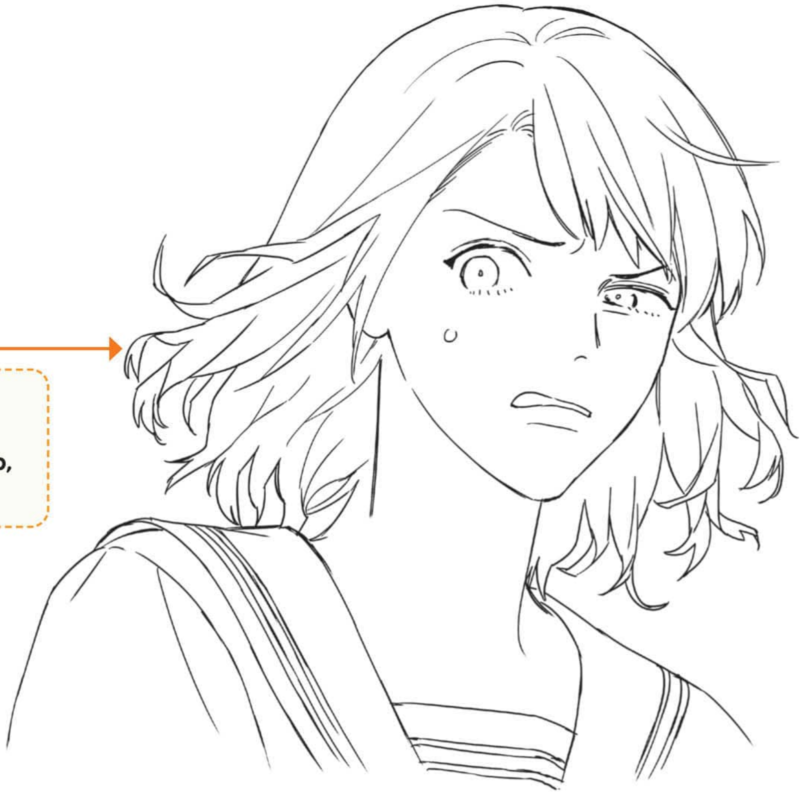
Express sadness by drawing the hair limp and hanging down around the character's face.



TIP
Draw the hair standing straight up to show shock.

SURPRISE

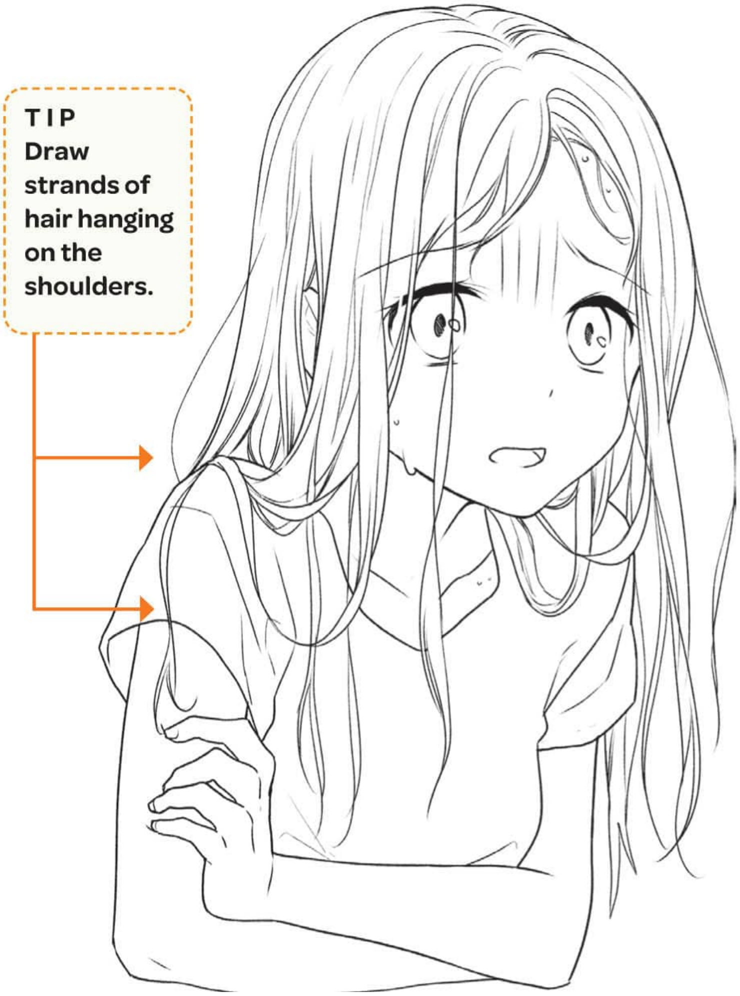
Show a character's shock and surprise by drawing the hair in sharp and spiky sections standing on end.



TIP
Draw the ends of the hair with sharp, angular points.

HATE

Negative feelings such as dislike or hate are expressed by drawing sharp angles in the ends of the hair.



TIP
Draw strands of hair hanging on the shoulders.

FEAR

Show shaking with fright by drawing the hair in long, stringy sections that have separated and hang limp.

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